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THURSDAY, JULY 1ST, 2010

STATE-OF-THE-ART HEART MONITOR STOLEN!

Olympic cyclist Nicole helps out Cowbridge charity – AND IS ROBBED!

THE Vale's Olympic gold medallist, cyclist Nicole Cooke, has been robbed while doing charity work in Cowbridge – and some of the items taken are "irreplaceable".

Nicole came to Cowbridge for two events – a charity bike ride in aid of fundraising for the new school (see story on page 6) and a Save the Children dinner in the Duke of Wellington.

She came straight from the Great Britain road race championships – a very hard race where Nicole found herself up against a trio of English riders, who ride for the same team, and who worked together to put her rival Emma Pooley in a winning position.

Nicole had joined local prizewinner Sarah Linnard for a training ride, and had then changed at the leisure centre before the dinner.

ABOVE: Nicole Cooke (left) and Sarah Linnard prepare to set off on their ride – see page 6 for the full story

She left some equipment in her mother's car and it was broken into.

Her father Tony, who teaches at Cowbridge comprehensive school, explained that her heart rate monitor was irreplaceable.

It had the data from the UK national race the day before, and she had not had time to download it due to her charity commitments.

He said: "It looks like a form of wrist watch and has 'Polar 620' written on it.

"There were two mobile phones stolen, one that was given to her for going to the Beijing Olympics and another one – a Nokia and HTC touch 2.

"There were also 250 picture signature cards, postcard size. It would be obvious where they were from if these suddenly appeared.

"Her name and picture is clearly stated on them. There was also a full set of cycling kit with the script 'Nicole Cooke' clearly on it".

Clearly, the thief could have no doubt about who the owner of the bag was.

Mr Cooke believes that the thief's main target was the sat nav.

The incident happened between 12 noon and 3.30pm on Monday (June 28) in the Cowbridge Leisure Centre car park.

The car was a Blue Fiat Punto and the passenger door lock was forced.

There is no CCTV in the car park of the leisure centre, and The GEM understands that the last break-in at the car park was about five years ago.

Anyone with information should contact Cowbridge Police Station.

ABOVE: Marathon cyclist Gareth Esplin.

Gardener Gareth in 24-hour race for children's hospice

A COWBRIDGE man has completed the UK's toughest 24-hour mountain bike endurance race to raise funds for Ty Hafan children.

Gareth Esplin (33) took part in the gruelling 'Original Source Mountain Mayhem' last week, on behalf of the hospice at Sully.

He came 60th out of 142 riders in the men's solo category, completing 11 circuits in 24 hrs – the equivalent of 99 miles. His fastest circuit was just over one hour and 21 minutes and he raised £900. Gareth's commitment to his chosen charity resulted in him being selected as one of just five Original Source Mountain Mayhem 'ambassadors', chosen for their strength of character, determination, courage and positive attitude – encapsulating the spirit of the event itself.

Gareth, head gardener at Penllyn Estate Farm, said: "The event was absolutely brilliant. The atmosphere is so friendly and I had a fabulous time.

"I did better than last year and raised almost £1,000 for my charity, so I'm really pleased. I'll be back next year."

Lorraine Rees, of Ty Hafan, said: "We would like to congratulate Gareth on his magnificent achievement in completing this very challenging event and raising funds for Ty Hafan. On behalf of the children, young people and their families who use its services, I would like to thank him for his great commitment and support."

Chamber of trade holds its AGM

COWBRIDGE Chamber of Trade is holding its annual general meeting on Monday, July 5, at 6pm in the Bear Hotel.

Chamber of trade chairman Alun John said: "I encourage all members and prospective members to attend this meeting."

Local girl takes Miss Wales title!

LOCAL girl Courtenay Hamilton took the Miss Wales title last weekend and will be off later this year to China for the Miss World contest.

Courtenay, who lives in St Donats, was sponsored by Cowbridge Fashion Week, and intends to appear at events promoting the festival.

FOR MORE DETAILS, SEE PAGE 14.

TURN TO PAGE 8 FOR EXCLUSIVE
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Village Africa's ambulance appeal

Pictured above are Tanzanian volunteer, Roy Gee, co-founder of project Village Africa, Caroline Johnston, and volunteer driver Sue.

THE Village Africa Ambulance appeal is a registered charity formed on May 6, 2006.

In September of that year, I visited this remote mountain community on a three-month teaching project; 11 months later, I returned for a similar period.

With first hand experience, I know there is a desperate need for an ambulance that will save many lives, young, newborn and elderly people.

Longevity is short: causes of death, malaria, pneumonia, water-borne diseases and women in childbirth.

Further information from *villageafrica.org.uk*

Roy Gee,
Dinas Powys

Watch out for garden thieves!

GARDENERS beware! I have noticed that there are sneak thieves stealing plants from around the Vale and you may be next.

They started with the sunken gardens at the Knap and moved on to the Parade Gardens. They are quite crafty as they take away some, or all, of the flowers, but put down grass seed so that you don't notice they are gone.

They allow weeds to grow back, hoping that you will think they are flowers – but I saw through this deception. You see, grass and weeds are green and flowers are all pretty colours!

What amazes me is that the council gardeners have not reported this crime! Keep your gates locked, they may be coming to you!

Alan Jones,
Barry

'THANK YOU'

I WOULD like to take this opportunity to thank The GEM for the set of 'Britain Alone' stamps, which I unexpectedly received last week.

Len Taylor,
Cowbridge

We welcome your news and views; please write to us at ***ggem@internet-today.co.uk***

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THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (*in certain circumstances*), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.

'Don't use the public as whipping boys'

RECYCLING: 'GET TO ROOT OF PROBLEM'

HAVING just returned from a two-week absence, I was intrigued to read (in the June 10 and 17 editions of The GEM) the correspondence about the demise of plastic bags on recycling, and the Vale Council's reply by Mr Clifford Parish.

This article pre-supposes that all residential properties have sufficient space to store the ever increasing number of recycling containers (see also the ludicrous advertisements by Bridgend County Borough Council, with its partner May Gurney, in the same issues), and that properties have ease of access front to rear (not through the property).

Also is there adequate pavement space on which to place containers ready for collection?

It pre-supposes that those of a frail or elderly disposition will be able to cope with the ever-growing use of recycling containers.

Surely, it would be better to get back to the root of the problem and for the council to harangue the Welsh Assembly Government (and thus, central Government) to legislate for those initiating the recycling materials to have a legal obligation to reduce the amount being used to the bare minimum – and not continue to provide for a growth waste-industry?

The general public should not be used as the 'whipping boys'.

The current effort to encourage recycling is laudable – but surely the picture is a classic case of 'cause and effect' in operation?

Doug Mountain,
Llantwit Major

'Why spend this cash on airport bus link?'

WITH reference to recent comments on the 'valuable' airport bus link, I frequently travel from Cardiff Airport.

On June 9, while waiting for the 7.15am flight to Fuerteventura, I checked the departure board.

There were 21 flights scheduled to leave the airport up to 4.30 pm; 12 of these left before 9 am.

I noticed in The GEM (June 24) your report that the Vale Council and the Assembly Government had agreed to give another £32,500 to provide a bus link from Rhoose to the Airport until the end of October.

Obviously, if you are catching a plane before 9am, you must be at the airport between 6-7am.

So why are we giving all this money for a bus service which doesn't run when more than half the planes are leaving or arriving at the airport?

If the Assembly needs to make cutbacks, start with the airport – and start very carefully by looking at the costs of a much larger subsidy they give to the flight from north Wales to Cardiff, which I'm sure is only used by AMs.

Mrs R C Hartill,
Ogmore by Sea

Nell's Point: 'be more imaginative'

READERS' children and grandchildren may not forgive the Vale Council for its compliance or acceptance in failing to make use of a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to transform Barry.

We have witnessed one of the lamest consultations ever for one of the most profound developments affecting Barry's future – the Nells Point development on Barry Island.

Where have been the public meetings, exhibitions, engagement with the public, instead of an afterthought of providing access via the council's web site?

We should demand the council aims higher in its plans and shows some imagination, determination to create a new development that provides for year-round, all weather tourism, which puts Barry on the map nationally and attracts visitors locally and from the West Midlands and West Country.

There are lots of ideas, for example, for a sea world development, high quality eco-cabin park, and climate change visitor centre.

We just need a desire to make the best of this opportunity – rather than a quick-fix solution, to generate immediate land sale income for the council.

Andy Green
Barry Island

Flower festival

THE 16th flower festival organised by Rectorial Benefice, Llantwit Major, is taking place over the Bank Holiday weekend of August 28, 29, 30.

Due to unforeseen circumstance, I may not have invited all I should have to take part. If I have left any organisations out and you would like to take part, please phone the office on 01446 795551 and let me know.

Margaret Muir,
Llantwit Major

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JULY 8)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
01 Thur	10.03	8.6	22.22	8.8
02 Fri	10.43	8.6	23.04	8.7
03 Sat	11.18	8.3	23.39	8.4
04 Sun	11.54	7.9		
05 Mon	00.20	7.9	12.48	7.7
06 Tues	01.13	7.6	13.51	7.6
07 Wed	02.25	7.7	14.58	7.7
08 Thur	03.41	7.8	16.16	8.1

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide tablespecific to their location.

USEFUL VALE INFORMATION

CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111
(Emergency number 999)
COASTGUARD 01792 366534
FLOOD LINE 0845 9881188
HELPLINES
Alcohol and drugs:
Drinkline **0800 9178282**
National Drugs Helpline **0800 776600**
DASH **01656 650686**
SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families **01656 785435**
RAF Association Welfare Officer 01495 249522/01446 740522
SAMARITANS (emotional support) **01656 662333**
VALE WOMEN'S AID 01446 744755
MENTAL DISTRESS
(Mental Health Matters) **01656 767045**
Mental Health Helpline:
Freephone **0800 132 737**
MIND in the Vale of Glamorgan
01446 730792 or www.mindinthevale.org.uk
CHILDLINE 0800 1111 - www.childline.org.uk
Rape Crisis Centre 08451 221331.
RSPCA 0300 123 0744. MIND 01446 746191.
AIDS helplines 0800 567123.
Child abuse – NSPCC 0808 800 5000.
Alcoholics Anonymous – (24 hours) 0845 7697555.
Drug Aid (24 hours) 02920 881000.
Inroads Drugs Project – 42, Holton Road, Barry. 01446 404040.
Vale Victim & Witness Support - Barry Magistrates Court, Thompson Street, Barry CF63 4SX. 01446 730704.

MP & AM's SURGERY TIMES

New MP Alun Cairns is still finalising his contact details but, to make a surgery appointment with Mr Cairns, contact the constituency office on 01446 733516 or e-mail alun@aluncairns.com

To make a surgery appointment with Jane Hutt AM, contact the constituency office (01446) 740981. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

CITIZENS' ADVICE

At 119 Broad Street, Barry. Drop in Mon-Fri (not Weds) 9.30am - 4.30am (Wed 11am-6pm); at Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road 9.30am - 11.30am Mon and Fri. Telephone advice 0845 120 3756. *Further information www.adviceguide.org.uk*

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police - Gladstone Road, Barry; for normal service 01446 734451; in emergency 999. Fire - South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Pontyclun 01443 232000; in emergency 999. Coastguard - Regional Office, Swansea 01792 366534; in emergency 999.

Gas - Gas emergency number 0800 111999.

Electricity - Emergency 0800 0520400; Water - Emergency 0800 052 0130; supply 0800 0520130.

Trading Standards Consumer Advice Centre - Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry; hours of opening for telephone enquiries - Monday to Thursday, 8.30am-5pm; Friday 8.30am-4.30pm on 01446 700111. For personal visits, Monday to Thursday 9am-4.30pm. Friday 9am-4pm. Recycling Hotline, 01446 700111.

To report a fly tipping incident - 01446 700111.

HOSPITALS

The Barry Hospital - visiting 2pm-8pm each day, 01446 704000. Llandough - Wards have individual visiting times. For details call 029 2071 1711. Princess of Wales - 01656 752752/668090.

For Out Of Hours Chemists, call the Vale of Glamorgan Local Health Board on 02920 350600, or NHS Direct Wales on 0845 4647.

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Llanfair pupils spend a day at the (duck) races

END of term activities at Llanfair Primary School included a traditional sports day, and also a duck race.

Pupils 'sold' the ducks as a fundraising exercise, and the champion duck seller in the school was Charlotte Powell, who sold a grand total of 136.

ABOVE: Y Bont Faen pupils spent a day at the local bank to hone their financial skills.

Young Erin claims gold as dance school excels, yet again!

PUPILS of the Moya Vahey School of Dance were highly successful again this year at the Bristol dance eisteddfod against competitors from across Wales and the south west.

All entrants performed well in their age groups and were awarded very high marks. The jewel in the crown was Erin McCloughlin (pictured) from Llantwit Major, who won a gold medal in the age five to six classical competition and also picked up the Tanya Allan Trophy, which is held by one of Moya's pupils for the third year in a row!

"The whole school will be performing in aid of Cancer Research Wales at the Cowbridge Old Hall Gardens on July 11 at 3pm. Tea and homemade cakes will be served and tickets can be purchased on the door. It promises to be an enjoyable show to raise money for a very good cause. Please come along and support this event," a spokeswoman urged.

ABOVE: Gold medallist Erin.

Memorial golf day raises £610 for new school

THE annual Gareth Jones golf day raised £610 towards equipment for the physical education department of the new Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

More than 60 players – members of Gareth's family, school mates, teachers and friends – turned up at Cottrell Park for a most enjoyable round of golf on a well-presented course in ideal weather conditions.

Gareth was tragically killed driving on Five Mile Lane nine years ago. He was a pupil at Cowbridge and in his final year when the accident happened.

He was a very good all-round sportsman who represented the county under-18 school boy rugby team, the school first XV, Cardiff Youth and Cowbridge RFC Firsts.

He also played football, cricket and represented the school at athletics.

The Annual Memorial Golf Day started nine years ago with a small number of friends and relatives taking part. Such is the esteem with which we hold the fondest of memories of this young man, the event has increased in popularity over the years.

The golf, barbeque and raffle raised all the money and we thank everyone for their support. We would also like to thank the Jones family for the refreshments provided at the half-way house of the Mackintosh course.

Winners of the various prizes were as follows,

First, Andrew Staddon 43 points. Second. Nick Hunt, 42 (on countback), and third, Peter Jones, 42.

Peter, who is Gareth's father, had 42 points coming to the last hole and only had to score a point to win the competition.

However the last hole was also the longest drive and in an attempt to win that prize, he put the ball out of bounds!

Nearest the pins on all par threes went to: Gareth Toutt; Elliot Hooper-Nash; Kevin Tanner; Derek Smith.

The longest drive went to Richard Taylor.

HW

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

Draw winners

ST MARY HILL Church 100 Club summer draw winners: Rachel Vaughan Jones, Mrs B Powell, Mr G Jones, Gwennan Harries, Eric Vaughan Jones.

The next draw will take place in September.

Get well

TO Young At Heart club chairman, Arthur Thomas, get better soon. We all miss you at the club!

Burglary

A HOUSE in Treoes village was broken into while the owners were away and jewellery stolen. If anyone noticed a stranger acting suspiciously in the area two weeks ago, please inform the police.

Reminder

LLANGAN School Fair will be held on Saturday, July 3 from 11am-2pm. Everyone welcome!

Diary date

ST CANNA'S Church, Coychurch, will be holding the annual barbecue and fete at the Old Rectory, Coychurch, on Saturday, July 17.

Stalls and games for all the family and final yards of the 'miles of pennies' competition.

Y Bont Faen pupils get head for finance

BARCLAYS employees in Cowbridge swapped bank notes for blackboards when they joined forces with Y Bont Faen Primary School in a bid to raise financial understanding among youngsters.

The initiative is part of the bank's newly launched money skills programme, which offers employees the opportunity to volunteer their business knowledge with young people, helping them to get to grips with the importance of understanding and managing money in a practical and fun way.

The school's headteacher, Meic Griffiths,, said: "In this economic climate it is more important than ever that children are able to identify the benefits, responsibilities and risks of budgeting, borrowing and spending money."

Mayor's charity coffee morning

THE Mayor and Mayoress of Cowbridge with Llanblethian will be holding their second charity coffee morning this Saturday, July 3, and ask for the public's support at the Mayor's Parlour between 10am and 12.30pm. All proceeds go to Cowbridge Comprehensive Fund.

The mayor and mayoress also invite readers to join the Town Council at Holy Cross Church on Sunday, July 4, at 10.45am for the annual civic service.

Milsom House Nursing Home, St Athan

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Y Bont Faen fundraisers are transforming the primary school facilities

FUNDRAISERS at Y Bont Faen primary school have mobilised everyone associated with the school and their efforts have just been rewarded with 18 mountain bikes – and a whole lot more!

JAYNE MORRIS, a trustee of the school PTA, explains what has been achieved.

AT Y Bont Faen primary the school, parents, governors and PTA have made a conscious effort to be greener in fundraising this year with the Y Bontfaen 'family' at the forefront.

New headteacher Meic Griffiths even recycled unused paints found in school to give the school a new look, with help from staff, PTA, governors and parents who volunteered to repaint the front of the school one Saturday morning in May in the new Bontfaen family colours.

This year we have collected Flora vouchers again and have Harry in reception's Nan once again to thank for most of our vouchers – we had £170 worth of cooking equipment, again which has pleased nursery nurse Mrs Hollings, who does most of the cooking!

The parents have sent in Nestle Cereal box tops for schools and we have bought some new history and art reference books worth £60 with those.

We have collected 39,000 Tesco vouchers this year and have even been able to buy some water arm bands for a school in Tanzania at the children's request with the spare odd vouchers.

The vouchers have allowed us to buy many small items of equipment such as printers, battery chargers, laminators and lots of small sports equipment. Every little really does help!

We have collected more than 2,000 Sainsbury vouchers for more sports equipment as well.

The school secretary Mrs Cross has also had the children collecting plastic milk bottle tops for Ty Hafan, as they sell them to make recycled garden furniture.

However, the piéce de resistance was stumbling across a scheme run by British Gas called 'Generation Green' – a policy to educate schools about green issues concerning energy useage.

The scheme gives the school 'green leaves' for every green thing we undertake, such as walking to school, turning off switches, recycling things, having green debates, thinking up green initiatives etc.

Everyone in school has helped to make a manifesto in which they promise to do three green things for a whole month.

There is a generation green leader board game and two children, James and Elin Morris have come in the top five scorers across the UK, winning themselves solar powered MP4 players and many other goodies – as well as more 'leaves' for the school!

The chair of the PTA, Richard Watson, has helped the children complete the manifesto on line and trustee Jayne Morris has been busy telling everyone how to earn their leaves and tallying the things that they do in school that count towards their targets.

This year we have achieved nine of our 10 seperate leaf targets and collected nearly 250,000 leaves in total!

This has allowed us to fund a mountain bike club at school, as we have been able to redeem those points for 13 new 18-gear mountain bikes in various sizes with all the helmets, bike racks, locks, lights, cycle computers and slap bands to go with them.

We have supported the gardening club with kids gardening gloves, kids rakes, brooms and hand tool sets as well as wheelbarrows, bug houses, bird feeders, weather stations and even a cam corder and nesting box.

We have ordered some new fruit trees to enhance their garden shop produce and some fun to grow kits.

For the older children, we have ordered science experiment kits such as wind turbines and solar panel kits, as well as a new 'friendship bench' which they can use in their newly refurbished outdoor play area.

We have had many more smaller items and estimate that there is well over £5,000 worth of items that we have earnt together!

Victory is so much sweeter when it actually costs nothing! Generation Green is really cool – thank you British Gas!

The school, PTA and the parents working together as one big family for the enhancement of all our children's learning – and it's free too so everyone can participate!

We urge all other schools to do the same – there really are no catches!

MP4 winner Elin Morris opening the goody box from the Flora cooking for schools campaign.

Cowbridge Comprehensive School sports round-up

School's athletes put on a solid Cup performance

RIGHT Under-14 girls.

KNOCKOUT CUP RESULTS

IN the Cardiff and Vale athletics knockout Cup, Cowbridge under-14 and under-16 girls teams both qualified for the knockout cup A final.

Two students compete in each event in an A event and B event.

The under-16 team were slightly weakened by the absence of a few students who were on the French exchange, but nevertheless as a team they put in a solid performance to finish in sixth place behind Llantwit, Whitchurch, Llanishen, Cardiff High and Bro Morganwg.

Individual results:

100m - 3rd Romy Killick 14.1; 5th Emily Mills14.5.

200m - 6th Sophie Lloyd 30.5; 7th Meakah Powell 32.0.

800m - 3rd Rachel Bradshaw 2:47.3; 5th Beatrice Hawker 3:07.3.

1500m - 4th Fiona Bray 5:52.3; 2nd Katie Wynne 5:58.4.

75m Hurdles - 6th Caitlin Allin 15.1; 7th Becky Thomas 15.0.

4 x 100m relay - 8th Cowbridge 58.3.

High Jump - 3rd Rebecca Thomas 1.40; 1st Molly Frost 1.40.

Long Jump - 2nd Romy Killick 4.37; 1st Caitlin Allin 4.14.

Shot - 6th Katie Wynne 6.72; 8th Rachel Jones 4.66.

Discus -7th Ellie Williams 16.43; 8th Hannah Jones 14.56.

Javelin - 3rd Coryn Sexton 17.83; 3rd Lucy Johnston 11.81.

In the under-14 event, hopes were high for a top two place, but unfortunately, the other schools were too strong for Cowbridge, who finished in fourth place behind Whitchurch, Llanishen and Radyr.

There were excellent performances by Izzy Eddy Williams who won the 100m and Annabel Curle who won the High Jump. The 4 x 100m relay team also won with Izzy Eddy Williams, Annabel Curle, Rebecca Thomas and Joanna Wilkins.

Individual results included:

100m - 1st Izzy Eddy Williams13.5; 5th Joanna Wilkins14.7.

200m -6th Eleanor Bishop 30.9; 7th Brooke Langton 31.7.

800m - 3rd Annabel Curle 2:43.1; 3rd Alice Tudor 2:57.9.

1500m - 7th Nadine James, 5:46.5; 3rd Rebecca Thomas 5:52.2.

70m Hurdles - 7th Sarah Lewis 13.6; 3rd Eve McGowen 14.1.

4 x 100m - 1st Cowbridge 56.0.

High Jump - 1st Annabel Curle 1.45; 3rd Lili Evans 1.25.

Long Jump - 4th Joanna Wilkins 4.01; 2nd Sarah Lewis 3.71.

Shot - 6th Lydia Hutchins 6.81; 6th Hannah Woodward 6.34.

Discus - 8th Immy Miller 14.91; 6th Hannah Portch 14.76.

Javelin - 8th Izzy Williams 9.29; 8th Brooke Langton 6.16.

Under-16 girls.

OBITUARY

Susan Patricia Thomas, aged 61

IT is with much sadness that I write this tribute to the late Mrs Susie Thomas, who faced her illness with such supreme courage.

The esteem in which she was held by her friends and neighbours was evident at her funeral, which took, place at the Mid Glamorgan Crematorium on June 23.

A friend who had travelled from Australia paid a moving tribute and gave an insight into her indomitable spirit, which had carried her through the last weeks of her illness.

Susie had moved from England to Australia as an infant and as an adult, she moved in some very dangerous areas around the world while working as an air hostess and stationed in Kuwait.

Eventually, Susie's travels brought her to Wales, where she would meet her future husband, David.

In 1977, Susie and David were married on the beautiful island of St Lucia, eventually making their home at Mount Pleasant Farm, where Susie enjoyed the life of a Vale farmer's wife.

David will always have the cherished memories of their happy years together.

The love of his sister Jill, her husband Peter, and their children will be a comfort to him in the months ahead.

The service was conducted by Rev Canon Peter Raikes and Rev Canon Val Hamer.

NANCY DAVIDGE

NEWS FROM THE COWBRIDGE ROTARY CLUB

Second donation to president's charity

THIS year's president of Cowbridge Rotary Club, Colin Jones, chose The Stroke Association as his charity.

The club donated £1,500 in February, and with funds remaining in the 'charity account' at the end of the Rotary year, decided to donate a further £1,000.

At a recent club meeting, two representatives of The Stroke Association visited the club to talk about strokes and the work of the Stroke Association.

Louise Bennett explained that a stroke is a bleed or clot in the brain. The location affects the consequences if not successfully treated. A stroke can affect communication, personality or movement.

Strokes are the third most frequent cause of death after cancer and heart disease yet the charity is very small in terms of income. The activities of The Stroke Association include:- Help for patients after a stroke; Research; Fundraising; Patient and family support projects; Welfare Grants; Campaigning and working with hospitals to establish 'Stroke Units' (less than 50 per cent).

The picture shows President Colin presenting the cheque to Louise Bennett, recently promoted to Head of Community Fundraising North for The Stroke Association. Also present is Bridget Stadden who has now taken over as Fundraising Manager for Wales.

The Stroke Association can be contacted on: 02920 524410; Helpline: 0303 3033 100; www.stroke.org.uk.

Pictured: Colin Jones with Louise Bennett and Bridget Stadden.

Pendoylan school pupils battle out their own exciting mini World Cup tournament

PUPILS at Pendoylan Church-in-Wales Primary School had a sporting week recently – following their sports day one week later with their very own mini World Cup!

The juniors took part in the 'World Cup' and they selected eight of the competing nations: Brazil, Italy, Germany, England, South Africa, Argentina and Spain.

In the Pendoylan World Cup, the South Americans sides were eclipsed and the final was played between Germany and Spain, with Spain winning 6 – 2.

The budding sportswriters in the school produced their own school newspaper and it reported on the week's sporting action (below).

Well done, boys and girls. Here at The GEM we liked the reports and the page design. But most of all, we liked the name – GEM SPORT!

ABOVE: Runners-up Germany.

BELOW: The winning Spanish team, brandishing the trophy!

RIGHT: The spectators came along in national costume and the Spanish contingent were all clearly happy to be backing the winners!

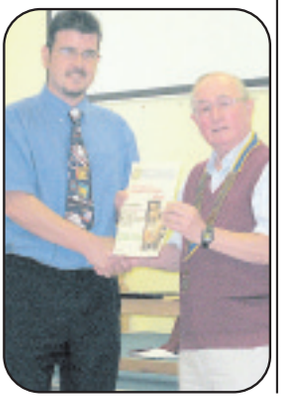
ABOVE: FELIZ DIA...It's a happy day for the winning World Cup team at Pendoylan Primary School.

LEFT: All set to urge their teams on in the mini World Cup. (No vuvuzelas, please!)

Rotarians' award for Llancarfan school

LAST week, the Cowbridge Rotary president presented a certificate to Llancarfan Primary School in recognition of their contribution to Rotary's world-wide project to eradicate polio. The school held a 'Purple Pinkie Day' and raised £339.

Other schools had earlier been presented with certificates: St Nicholas, Ysgol Iolo Morgannwg, Llanfair County Primary, Pendoylan, Peterstone-super-Ely Church in Wales, Cowbridge Comprehensive Lower School.



RIGHT: Well done, school!

Brave few enjoy tower climb

LAST Saturday, members and friends of the United Free Church of Cowbridge, travelled by bus to Brecon Cathedral for an informative tour of the cathedral by the Dean, who told them that Dr Who had recently been there, allowed him into the Tardis, and had signed the visitors book!

Those who were brave enough were then invited to climb the tower!

The group then travelled to the Mountain Centre at Libanus, where large volumes of tea and cakes were consumed.

A short walk to the nearest trig point was also organised for those who wanted to get some exercise, and they were warned about the dangers of touching foxgloves and reasons why they should not leave the paths and run around in the undergrowth!

The weather was perfect and Pen-y-Fan was completely visible in all its glory, causing some of the group to start thinking about doing a walk there in August. **SH**

A TOAST TO AUSTRALIA'S NEW PRIME MINISTER – by a former Vale neighbour!

by TIM CHAPMAN

LAST week, a Vale man had a special reason to toast the new Prime Minister of Australia – he's a close family friend, and put her up on holiday when she returned to the town of her birth!

Basil Baker (91) of Queen Street, Barry, knew John and Moira Gillard and daughters Julia and Alison as next door neighbours in the 1960s.

But last Thursday, he woke to the news that Julia had become Australia's first female Prime Minister.

Basil said: "My wife Mabel and I moved into Queen Street before the Gillards. They came a couple of years later.

"John, the father, worked in the ticket office of Barry Railway Station so a lot of people knew him.

"He and Moira were good friends, nice parents and they had nice kids, nothing special – until now!"

The family left for Australia in 1966 because John and Moira thought the climate would help Julia who had health problems.

ABOVE: Basil Baker, the former neighbour of the new Australian Prime Minister, toasts Julia Gillard's success.

Basil said: "The family came back on holiday when Julia was in her teens. We put Julia and her parents up because we had two bedrooms spare. If I remember correctly, her sister stayed with her grandparents.

"We spent a long time chatting because it was snowy outside. I remember Julia saying she wanted a career. She wasn't sure what, but told me she wanted to work her way up. The first job she had was as an immigration officer.

"The Gillards have kept in touch with me each Christmas and let me know when she became Deputy Prime Minster by sending me a magazine article.

"I think what she has achieved is amazing. It makes me wonder if she had stayed here whether she would have become the British Prime Minister – Mrs Thatcher did."

Mr Baker, who worked as a coalman in Barry for 38 years with the family business Baker & Sons, added: "If the family do come back, I hope they look me up."

Last week, the Australian media were keen to find out about Julia Gillard's home town with TV crews and newspaper reporters getting a flavour of Barry from the locals.

Marco Zeraschi, who owns Marco's Café on the Island, did an interview for the Australian Broadcasting Company's evening news.

"I told them that the best looking girls were from Barry and that they were lucky to have her – a great export. They wanted to know a bit about the town, so I told them we had a better beach than Bondi!"

Marco also used the opportunity to sell the Barry and the Vale to Australian visitors.

He told The GEM: "We get lots of Australians coming here because Gavin and Stacey is massive with the Aussies. Lots of them come to the Island to take photos."

ABOVE: Marco Zeraschi spoke about Barry on Australian radio and used it as an opportunity to sell the town and Vale to potential Aussie tourists.

TRAIN NAMED AFTER PM

The Barry Rail Centre, is renaming one of its trains 'Julia Pride of Barry', after Julia Gillard.

Barry Rail Centre managing director, Dr Mark Lang, said: "Plans to restore the Class 73 locomotive at Barry Rail Centre are under way, and the Rail Centre's operator, Cambrian Transport, is now keen to encourage Julia Gillard's role as an ambassador for the town. The locomotive is on long-term loan from Eurostar and when restored it will provide a training facility for local young people wanting a career in the rail industry."

RIGHT: Cowbridge Mayor Len Taylor holds the winning ticket drawn by Alex Glanville (right). CCFC secretary Mat Holloway (on left) looks on.

Nicole helps out fundraisers at Cowbridge school

COLWINSTON resident, Sarah Linnard, was the lucky winner of the raffle organised by Cowbridge Comprehensive Fund-raising Committee (CCFC) to win a ride with local Olympian Nicole Cooke.

The draw was made by Alex Glanville, who recently completed a 280-mile fundraising ride for the school from Cowbridge to Cowbridge in Lincs.

Sarah said: "I'm thrilled to have this opportunity to ride with Nicole, after watching her Olympic triumph on the television.

"My two young children were just as excited and have sent their autograph books along for Nicole to sign."

Nicole took time out of her busy training schedule to accompany Sarah on a 'recovery ride' around the Vale after a gruelling weekend's racing. "We're really grateful that Nicole has found time to help us in our fund-raising," said CCFC secretary Mat Holloway.

"The campaign is going well and has been boosted recently by Alex's ride, the raffle of the ride with Nicole, and an anonymous but substantial donation to equip the school's new recording studio.

"We're confident that the new school will be one of the best-equipped in Wales, but we need to keep on fundraising until our target is reached."

This week, the CCFC held a golf day, courtesy of the Vale Hotel, and other events are planned.

To keep in touch with the campaign, and to make donations, visit *www.cowbridge-comp2010.co.uk* or telephone Mat on 07740 869620.

CHARITY EVENT

THE charity Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research is holding an afternoon of tea, cakes and music to celebrate 50 years of fundraising at Ystradowen Village Hall on July 10, at 2.30pm. Entry £5.

A night under canvas for the Girl Guides

Local Guides made Welsh dishes to consume over the weekend they celebrated Guiding's 100th anniversary.

RECENTLY, as part of the Girlguiding Cymru celebrations for the Centenary of Girlguiding, the Guides across Wales were asked to pitch a tent and munch something Welsh.

Guides, Rangers and their leaders from 1st Colwinston and 1st Cowbridge Guides joined together on the field at Llandow Village Hall to take part in the fun and games.

The Guides made Welsh Cakes from scratch and cooked their own sausages, bought from the local butcher in Cowbridge.

After pitching their tents they rounded off the evening with singing around the campfire.

Fifteen stayed for a sleepover under canvas and enjoyed breakfast before striking tents and heading home. It was a great celebration of 100 years of Guiding in Wales.

The Guiders, Denise Burns, Emily Denham and Jen Denham, were joined by Wendy Hinton Vale Division Commissioner.

JEN DENHAM (Girlguiding Cowbridge District Commissioner)

Flying Vet's silence in court puts him back in prison cell

by AJ SICLUNA

MAURICE KIRK, the 'Vale Flying Vet' is again behind bars in a prison cell.

Last week, the 64-year-old appeared in person at Cardiff Crown Court and successfully applied for medical records to be released to him.

When the hearing ended, the Recorder of Cardiff, Judge Nicholas Cooke QC, rose and went to leave Court Number One.

Mr Kirk shouted that he had other matters to raise, and at that point picked up a heavy plastic file, secured with metal rings, and threw it towards the judge's bench.

It missed the court associate by an inch before landing near the judge.

Mr Kirk was immediately arrested and taken to the court cells.

Six hours later, he appeared before Judge Christopher Llewellyn-Jones QC and was jailed for 28 days for contempt of court.

On Tuesday (June 29), he appeared in the high-security Court Number Five in a dock which has bullet-proof glass, to apologise for his actions.

Mr Kirk, dressed smartly in a suit and bow tie, was flanked by two security officers.

The woman associate asked him: "Are you Maurice Kirk?" He turned his head to the left and said nothing.

She asked the question a second time and the response was the same.

At this point, the judge intervened and asked: "Are you going to answer?"

Mr Kirk made no reply and the judge ordered that he be taken back into custody to serve the remainder of his sentence.

Earlier this year, Mr Kirk was found not guilty of possessing, selling or transferring a prohibited weapon, a Lewis machine gun.

He was also cleared of a charge of possessing the weapon, which was nearly 100 years old.

Twice during that hearing, Mr Kirk had to be forcibly carried to the cells by dock officers.

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Company fined after worker's foot amputated

A construction worker needed his foot to be amputated after it became trapped by a metal sheet being driven into the ground at an excavation site in Barry, local magistrates were told last week.

The Vale Magistrates Court at Barry heard details of the horrific incident after his employers, Morgan Est plc were prosecuted by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) for failings leading to the injury.

Clive Morgan, (46), from Gilfach Goch, Rhondda, was installing interlocking metal sheets, known as piles, into the ground to prevent the collapse of an excavation for an underground pumping station at Barry Ponds.

Mr Morgan was standing on a horizontal beam in place to guide the pile into position, when his foot became trapped between the sheet and the beam, injuring his left foot so seriously he later had it amputated.

The company, of Kent House, 14-17 Market Place, London, pleaded guilty to a charge under Section 2 (1) of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. The construction firm have been fined £12,000 with costs of £11,213.

The incident happened in February 2008 and the HSE investigation demonstrated that the work Mr Morgan was involved in was not being carried out in a safe manner, in that no-one should be standing close to a metal pile as it is being lowered into position.

HSE Inspector Steve Richardson said that since the incident, the company have revised their procedures for installing piles and provided dedicated training for their operatives.

"This was too late for Mr Morgan, who remains unable to work and is still undergoing treatment," he added.

Artist's show

AN exhibition was held by Art Central Friends at the Town Hall, Barry, of work by the late local artist Robert Hart.

Eve Hart and Alan Salisbury curated the exhibition. Eve introduced the exhibition and provided a personal insight into Bob's life and work, while there was further insight and analysis provided during a tour of the exhibition.

Guests included Bob's daughter Carole, and Jane Hunt, a relative from Sydney, Australia, who had crossed the world to see the exhibition in Barry.

Three Vale residents are jailed for not paying council tax

MAGISTRATES have imposed prison sentences on three Vale residents found guilty of failing to pay their council tax.

Ms Anne Louise Muston of Barry, had previously appeared before the Barry court, where a prison sentence was imposed, but suspended on repayment terms.

She had failed to honour the terms of the suspended sentence and was summonsed to appear before the magistrates on June 21 to answer why she had failed to comply with the order. Ms Muston appeared before the magistrates, but could give no good reason why she had not honoured the terms of the previous order made.

As a result, a prison sentence of 20 days was activated and Ms Muston was taken straight into custody.

Mr Alan Reynolds of Penarth, and Mr Michael Randall of Peterston-super-Ely, had also previously appeared before the magistrates where prison sentences were imposed, but suspended on repayment terms.

The defendants had failed to honour the terms of the suspended sentences and were summonsed to appear before the magistrates on June 21 to answer the reasons why they had failed to comply with the orders.

As they failed to attend the court hearing the decision was made to activate their warrants and impose the sentences with immediate effect, giving custodial terms of 13 days and four days respectively.

A council spokesman said that anyone in genuine difficulty or on low income should telephone 01446 709244.

Aviation society

PENARTH Aviation Society meet on Friday, July 2, at 8.30pm in Penarth Conservative Club for a talk on Lawrence of Arabia by Mac Tanner.

Mr Tanner has researched Lawrence's time after the end of the war, when he was living under two aliases. Was he looking for privacy or was there another reason?

Mr Tanner will reveal his theory, and entry is free.

For further information, telephone 02920 531390.

Tom tribute goes ahead

THE death of former Sterophonics drummer Stuart Cable meant a BBC tribute to Sir Tom Jones marking his 70th birthday was postponed at short notice.

It meant Barry butchers, Vic Hopkins and Son, were denied their moment in the TV spotlight, when they were due to take part in a rendition of the song 'Delilah'.

Tony Hopkins contacted The GEM and said: "The programme has now been rescheduled for this Sunday evening, July 4, at 10.25pm on BBC1 Wales. Delilah is sung at the end of the tribute to Tom by groups of people from around Wales."

You don't have to be Einstein to guess that the Barry butchers belt out the line starting 'I felt the knife in my hands...'

NEWS IN BRIEF

Booksale bonanza!

COWBRIDGE library is holding a one-off booksale from July 3 - 18 from 10am to 5pm daily.

Garden Party

THE NSPCC Barry Committee will hold its annual garden party at Dyffryn Gardens on Wednesday, July 14, at 3pm.

Tickets are £10, including afternoon tea. For tickets, telephone 01446 748823.

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THE GLAMORGAN GEM WORLD CUP ROUND-UP

As England arrive back home, the Welsh team talk is ready!

by TONY BENNETT

WELL the clash I thought would happen, happened.

Mighty encounter I wrote, The Three Lions of England would surely roar and charge into battle. Brian Blessed, his booming voice led the battle cry. "For Fabio, England and St. George."

What did we get, three kittens mewing as England crashed hopelessly out of the World Cup.

The cream of English football talent, finely tuned athletes, supposedly world class players, all very highly paid, were no match for a German team full of invention and technical ability.

I wonder what the reply would be if you said to the Dutch manager Bert van Marwijk. "Hey Bert, wanna swap a couple of your boys for some English lads"?

I suspect you would have to pick him up off the floor first, because he would have fallen over laughing so much.

He might then reply. "Not a chance, come back and see me when they have learned how to pass a ball."

I don't think he would even consider tackling the subjects of tactics and formations, that's way beyond them.

The only good thing English to come out of this World Cup, showing pride, passion and roaring like three lions, were the fans. They were magnificent, out-singing the Vuvuzelas, and not one was arrested by the police in South Africa, well done them.

Lastly, on the subject of England, they have to play Wales twice in the next 18 months.

John Toshack's team talk should be easy, "get stuck into them lads because this lot aren't as good as they think they are."

The Italians also bombed out, joining the French in not getting past the group stage.

Slovakia beat them 3-2, leaving them without a win and bottom of the group table. The Slovaks then met Holland in the last 16 and despite a valiant effort, lost 2-1.

The Dutch never really got out of second gear for that match, you had the feeling they were trying not to work too hard, saving something for the next round.

That brings us neatly onto Brazil. They have just cruised through the opening stage, even with Kaka being sent off against the Ivory Coast.

The Portugal v Brazil game was really disappointing, mainly because both teams only needed a draw to qualify.

Brazil then went into a match against Chile who, it has to be said, at least had a go at Brazil.

The final score though was 3-0 to Brazil.

Uruguay beat the plucky South Koreans 2-1 and again you had the feeling they too were trying to save some energy for what is to come.

The good ol' US of A, who had looked promising after topping England's group with a last gasp goal against Algeria, were wasteful in front of goal against the only African team left, Ghana.

That game went to extra time with Ghana scoring a winner in the first period and hanging on for a 2-1 win.

Spain, who started badly losing to Switzerland, got their act together beating Honduras and Chile to win group H and that set up a meeting with Portugal.

Argentina have rolled over everyone so far and played attacking football of a high quality, the Tevez goal against Mexico is probably the goal of the tournament so far.

So by the time you read this, we will be down to the last eight teams.

What have we got left to feast our eyes on? Friday 3pm is Holland v Brazil, this match-up has in the past produced some outstanding matches.

Friday, 7.30pm sees Uruguay v Ghana – South America v Africa.

Saturday, 3pm is Argentina v Germany, and must be worth a watch.

Lastly, Saturday night, 7pm should be Spain v Paraguay; Portugal and Japan might yet appear, I've had to predict that one.

My prediction for the semi finals next week: Ghana to play Brazil and Argentina to play Spain.

Oh, and by the way, if you have any comments or thoughts about the World Cup, or if you're a fan who has been there and returned, let The GEM know by writing in, with your comments.

Girls Line up for their very own World Cup

ABOVE:
Girls in the Vale are getting the football bug!

IN conjunction with the FAW, Cadoxton Imps Coyotes girls football team is holding its own World Cup Festival for girls aged 6-11 at Barry Boys School on July 7.

For details, telephone Sue Deakin on 07967 711591.

Sponsorship plea

PONTYCLUN travel agent Sarah Wheeler will be running the Royal Parks Half Marathon in Hyde Park on October 10 to raise funds for charity and to help children in Kenya.

Anyone who would like to sponsor the run can contact www.justgiving.com/SARAH-WHEELER1

Clamping down on waste while protecting our public services

ASSEMBLY NOTES

by ***Jane Hutt AM*** **(Minister for Business and Budget)**

A fortnight ago, I attended the 50th anniversary of Barry Comprehensive School celebrations; and this was followed on June 28 by the Barry College 50th birthday party at Colcot Road, with beautiful weather on both occasions.

There was an atmosphere of celebration and achievement at Barry College, as former students and staff met up, exchanged memories and made visits to their old classrooms, photograph and prospectus exhibitions.

Barry Amateur Radio Society were marking their 50 years of association with the college and their involvement in the first Marconi broadcast.

The Principal, Paul Halstead, reminded us that 50 years ago there were 10 members of staff and 400 students.

Last year, there were 500 members of staff and 10,000 students, with a wide range of courses available in different sites from Rhoose to the Barry Waterfront, Dumballs Road in Cardiff Bay as well as Colcot Road.

Barry College plays a vital role in the provision of 14-19 Learning Pathways, offering vocational opportunities to school and college students from across the Vale – in a planned network of provision at the forefront of our educational drive to provide skills and learning opportunities to all our young people, equipping them for the challenges of our current economic climate.

Earlier this week, I joined a cross-party panel of Assembly Members to answer questions from year-12 Pupils at Llantwit Major Comprehensive School.

The first question was about the impact of the public spending cuts on schools. The year-12 questioners were acutely aware of the current financial and economic challenges and were articulate in making their points.

I was able to respond by saying that the Welsh Assembly Government had made the funding of schools a priority.

The UK coalition Government's Budget last week cuts spending and increases taxes by around £40bn per year by 2014-15 – over and above the previous Labour Government's plans. In Wales, we have already been asked to make £186m worth of cuts in this year and next.

We are considering carefully our options for achieving this whilst we analyse the impact of the Budget and await further figures from the comprehensive spending review in October.

The projected elimination of the budget deficit set by the Chancellor seeks greater public spending cuts than tax increases; the ratio is roughly 4:1.

This makes for tough decisions in Wales over the coming weeks and months.

The Welsh Assembly Government has made its spending priorities clear – schools, skills, and the NHS.

Investment and spend in all of these public services, like our Vale schools and Barry College, our primary health care and hospital services will have an impact on our economy and our ability to foster growth with a well educated, motivated and healthy workforce.

Last week, we celebrated Armed Forces Day in Barry, Cardiff and across Wales, Carl Sargeant AM, our Welsh Assembly Government Minister reminded the Assembly that, "Nearly 3,000 soldiers, sailors and Royal Air Force personnel are based in Wales.

With their families, they are an integral part of Welsh society.

They use our schools, our health services and our public transport.

So the Assembly Government has an obligation to ensure that these and other public services are delivered in a way that meets their needs".

This was a salutary point to make as we celebrate and safeguard our public services whilst being vigilant about driving out inefficiencies, waste and duplication.

That was my message to the Welsh Assembly on Tuesday to achieve "better outcomes in tougher times", echoed by the First Minister at the Public Services Summit this week.

PLAID CYMRU councillors Caroline Turner and Barry Shaw, are joined by Keith Stockdale at Holton Primary School, Pyke Street, Barry from 11am to 12 midday on Saturday, July 10, for an advice surgery. No appointments necessary.

SCOPE VOICE IN THE VALE

LEFT: The Vale AM is pictured with Rob Williams and other SCOPE VOICE members.

Vale Assembly Member, Jane Hutt, met the SCOPE VOICE team at their recent open day and viewed the re-designed IT suite and flourishing vegetable gardens.

Afterwards, she commented: " I was very pleased to hear that SCOPE organised elections for their members to set up SCOPE VOICE to request the views of all the people who attend the SCOPE Day Centre, taking part in a wide range of activities, including IT and gardening.

***"I know members of SCOPE VOICE will have a positive influence on the development of SCOPE* in the Vale of Glamorgan."**

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THURSDAY JULY 8 Leave 1.15pm back 6pm
Cruise to charming West Somerset & visit Minehead £25 SC £23 Or enjoy a cruise to view the beautiful West Somerset Coast & Porlock Bay £27 SC £25

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Cruise to visit Minehead or Watchet £25 SC £23 Sail to Watchet & join a steam train trip through the Somerset countryside & visit Minehead - inclusive fare £29.95 or enjoy a cruise sailing to the West Country Harbours of Watchet & Minehead £27

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Watermouth Castle
SUNDAY JULY 11 Leave 9.30am back 9pm
Cruise to Ilfracombe where you will be taken to Lynmouth - the Switzerland of England –before enjoying a trip on the Lynton & Barnstaple Railway in North Devon – a picturesque narrow gauge railway, inclusive fare £39 Or take the kids to Watermouth Castle for £31

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In England, patients are treated within 18 weeks of referral, but here it is a different story...

IN WALES, THEY COULD HAVE TO WAIT A YEAR!

REPORT by JAYNE ISAAC

A VALE woman is battling to get the waiting times for hospital treatment in Wales brought into line with those in England.

Pat Swain of Town Mill Road, Cowbridge, was shocked to find that while the Welsh Assembly Government stipulates that patients must be treated within 26 weeks of being referred to a hospital by their GP, in England the time is 18 weeks.

She is also perturbed to find that if a patient is referred on to a second consultant by the first one, the 26-week waiting time starts again from scratch.

"That means that you can wait a year for treatment in Wales from the time your GP makes the referral," she said. "The NHS in Wales is acting as if it is a lot of different organisations.

"I was referred from the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg board to Cardiff and the Vale and it was like dealing with two completely different organisations, instead of all being part of the same health service. There is no co-operation at all between them."

Mrs Swain, who is 72, was initially referred to a gynaecologist at the Princess of Wales hospital last November by her GP who diagnosed a prolapse.

In December, she was told that she would have to wait between 12 and 14 weeks to see him.

In February, after a 13-week wait, she rang again and was told that the wait would be 17 to 18 weeks.

She later received an appointment for March 30 which would have been 20 weeks after referral.

She went on: "But on March 12, I had a letter cancelling the appointment and giving me a new date of April 13 which would have been 22 weeks after referral.

"When I rang up to find out what was happening, I was told that the consultant had decided to go on holiday. But after I made a fuss, I was told that he was available the following Tuesday and they offered me three different slots – this was on March 23.

"So why wasn't I offered one of those dates originally? Why did they try to push me back to April when there were free dates available?"

Mrs Swain then saw the consultant: "He said that the operation needed was too specialised and complex for him to do and he said I would need to see someone else – either in Swansea or Cardiff."

Mrs Swain opted for Llandough Hospital and was told she would be referred there.

But on April 12, three weeks after she was seen, the referral letter had still not arrived at Llandough. She checked three days later and was told it was there.

"I was then told that I would have to go back onto another waiting list and could wait a further 26 weeks in theory, although the time quoted was 12 to 14 weeks to see the consultant.

"I was told that nothing could be done because the new pathway started from the date the referral letter is received. I was back to square one."

At this point, Mrs Swain started rattling a few cages and wrote to both health boards, to health minister Edwina Hart, shadow health minister Andrew RT Davies and to Vale AM Jane Hutt.

She then spoke to ABM, who said she could be referred to Singleton Hospital and she was in such discomfort and distress that she opted for this route.

"I saw the consultant on May 18 and he told me that there was an alternative treatment to surgery, which was to insert a ring pessary which he did there and then without any further delay."

Mrs Swain said that she had made a remarkable improvement and was seeing him again in October to see if the treatment had worked or whether or not she still needed surgery.

"I am feeling so much better, but I am surprised that this option was not offered to me initially in Bridgend. It was a simple procedure, which I am sure all gynaecologists are able to do so I am wondering why this treatment was not offered. It would have saved me a lot of distress and hanging about.

"It seems that nobody cares about how much people are shuttled about between doctors and hospitals. You just feel that nobody is talking to anyone else."

Her husband Brian said that Pat had endured six months of purgatory.

"We do not blame the consultants but it is the administration of these things that is at fault. They are using the 26 weeks as a minimum time and not a maximum one."

Mrs Swain added: "I am very unhappy with why Wales should have to wait longer than England and I am still fighting for answers. There are other people in my position and they deserve better."

Vale AM Jane Hutt said: "I have taken up this case on behalf of Mrs Swain with the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg LHB, Cardiff and Vale LHB and the Minister for Health and Social Services to expedite this treatment."

• Do other GEM readers have an experience to share? Write to us at the address on page 2.

Alfred is wished 'many happy returns' at his 99th birthday celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ALF!

CLOSE family and friends gathered at the The Sportsman's Rest in Peterston-super-Ely on June 25 (a day early!) to wish one of the Vale's great characters, GEM contributor, Alfred Mills, a very happy 99th birthday. As can be seen from GEM photographer Ian Dixon's pictures of the happy event, Alfred is in fine fettle and the GEM is now looking forward to next year and his 100th birthday.

The All Wales ploughing and hedging championships

THE Riverlea CLAAS 51st All Wales Ploughing and Hedging Championships will be held on Saturday, September 18, at Boverton Farm, Llantwit Major, on land owned by V J Thomas and Son.

More than 100 competitors will compete on the day, with classes including traditional, reversible and vintage ploughing, plus horse ploughing, traditional style hedging and fencing.

The winners qualify for the UK, European and World Championships. There will also be demonstration areas highlighting modern methods of ploughing, cultivating and seeding together with a number of trade stands and a large vintage machinery section.

Main ring attractions include Paws for Thought dog display team, a slow tractor race (!) and a falconry display. The president, Mr Tony Thomas, said: "We are delighted to be hosting this prestigious event and aim to attract many competitors from all over the country.

"We hope to have at least 12 teams of horses ploughing, along with competitions in hedging, fencing and World Class ploughing.

"Furthermore, it is hoped to have a steam ploughing demonstration and working threshing machine. Steam ploughing was the big breakthrough towards mechanisation from horse ploughing and it is fantastic that this method can still be demonstrated.

"I know a number of farmers who are very much looking forward to seeing it. I would like to thank our sponsors who are enabling us to provide these demonstrations and who will ensure that the day will be a great success".

• *Prospective sponsors can contact the secretary on 01446 710376.*

STRAIGHT AHEAD!

ABOVE: Ploughing a straight furrow.

COWBRIDGE ANNUAL FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVAL WELCOMES NEW SPONSORS

FOOD lovers in south Wales can put a special date in their diaries – the the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival 2010, with the addition of two major new sponsors.

Sigma 3 Kitchens and Filco Supermarkets will sponsor the sixth festival, which takes place on October 30 and 31 this year.

The south Wales-based retailer and manufacturer Sigma 3, which provides high-quality, stylish kitchens at affordable prices, will sponsor the food demonstration area at this year's festival.

Last year's event saw demonstrations from local producers, restaurant chefs, and acclaimed food writers, and the 2010 festival promises equal variety, with plenty of opportunity for the audience to taste the food and get involved.

Filco Supermarkets, a family-run business with eight stores across south Wales, will sponsor the wine and cheese marquee, and Filco will also be presenting and sampling their own range of Welsh cheese and fine wine.

Other festival favourites returning this year include the Champagne tent, with live music throughout the festival weekend, and the main area, where a huge variety of local and national exhibitors will showcase some of Britain's finest food and drink.

Bethan Barnfield, marketing manager at Sigma 3 Kitchens said: "As a successful Welsh business, we're pleased to be associated with a thriving Welsh event.

"The Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival is synonymous with quality exhibitors and products, and also attracts people from a large area who have an interest in food, drink and perhaps cooking, so also appreciate quality kitchens."

Simon Hunt, director of Filco Supermarkets, added: "We are delighted to have been given the opportunity to sponsor the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival 2010, and proud to support such an important Cowbridge event.

"The festival is fast becoming one of the main events in the Cowbridge calendar, and this is a great opportunity for our business to showcase some of the best 'Cowbridge Food Festival 2010' products throughout the year."

The Food and Drink Festival chairman, John Davies, commented: "This sponsorship allows the food demonstrations to continue in the town hall car park, offering a fantastic showcase to local chefs and restaurateurs, and we are very grateful to Sigma 3 for their support.

"Similarly, Filco Supermarkets' support allows visitors to experience some fantastic Welsh produce at the festival in the wine and cheese marquee, which is always hugely popular."

'The future is bright with Vale Orangeries'

DUE to the recent success of the Modena Orangery concept by Creative Window & Build Solutions husband and wife team, Dean & Leanne Edmonds have announced the formation of their sister company Vale Orangeries.

Dean explained: "We have been overwhelmed by the recent interest in our range of orangeries and garden rooms. We knew there was a large demand for people wanting to increase their living space and looking for an alternative to the conservatory or traditional extension.

"Our orangeries are the perfect solution!"

Leanne added: "There are numerous options available to suit every budget.

"Underfloor heating, recessed lighting, bi-folding doors and contemporary lantern style roofs are just a few of the options available.

"We have an in-house interior designer who can help with the final touches, including soft furnishings and original artwork creating a unique, personal living space for any home.

"Our showhomes are proof of how our range of Modena orangeries can transform the way you use your home. Anyone can speak to our clients and ask them how their orangery has changed their lifestyle."

Dean enthused: "An orangery is undoubtedly the new generation conservatory. More than just a conservatory and less expensive than a traditional extension, the Vale Modena range fuses the best of both while providing your home with the ultimate WOW factor".

Vale Orangeries have several showhomes throughout the Vale. Anyone thinking of extending living space and require inspiration are invited to see our bespoke, luxury living spaces.

Call 01446 746353 or e-mail info@valeorangeries.co.uk, or search for Vale Orangeries to see their recent portfolio.

Thinking of a conservatory or extension but want something different?

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'Justice needs to be seen to be served in our own communities'

Local politicians pledge to oppose threat to court

by TIM CHAPMAN

LOCAL politicians have pledged to fight to keep the Vale Magistrates Court open.

As The GEM revealed last week, the court at Barry is under threat, following the publication of a Ministry of Justice paper recommending closure.

Plaid Cymru's Dr Ian Johnson argued that it was vital that justice be provided close to the community it served.

"We all know that the court in Barry has been targeted for cuts for quite some time, and I joined staff in protesting against changes back in March.

"Justice needs to be served and delivered in our own communities, not transferred out in this way.

"This is just the first of the announced cuts from this new Tory-led Government that will have a negative effect upon our way of life in Barry.

"Our new Tory MP, Alun Cairns recently told The GEM that the Vale needs to retain its own court at Barry.

"I hope that he will join me in fighting his own Government against their plans to shut this important centre."

The consultation document envisages a day when Vale cases will be heard in Cardiff.

Vale MP Alun Cairns stated that he was determined to ensure the court remained in Barry, and encouraged the public to make their views known during the consultation period.

He said: "I will do everything possible to stop the closure and ask that as many people as possible respond to the consultation. I was involved in the last campaign and as far as I can see, the need for the Vale Magistrates Court remains."

Mr Cairns added that he was already concerned by the existing proposals to transfer court administration jobs out of the Vale to Bridgend.

He pointed out: "The transfer some time ago of the police custody suite from Barry to Cardiff will also make our case more difficult.

"But I will be pressing that Barry is Wales' largest town and that there is an important principle of local justice.

"The court has excellent facilities, with separate entrances for defendants and witnesses and it has a first class victim support group.

"We need to do all we can to make sure it stays open."

Assembly Member, Jane Hutt, said she was disappointed to see the shadow of closure hanging over the court after a successful campaign had been fought to keep it open in the recent past.

She said: "I know the people of Barry will join me in saying we cannot let the new Government close our Vale Magistrates Court.

"We successfully made the case to keep it open when it was threatened four years ago.

"The Minister at the time, Harriet Harman, visited the court at my invitation and after considering the facts, viewing the facilities and meeting the staff, ruled against the closure.

"The evidence was as clear then as it is now. Barry is the largest town in Wales, it needs a local justice system which is accessible and effective, with facilities for victims, and a speedy criminal justice process for defendants."

The Vale AM revealed that she had written to the new Secretary of State for Justice, Kenneth Clarke, urging him to retain the court.

Fun dog show at the country park

Benji: one of those looking for a home.

ON Sunday, July 4 Dogs Trust Bridgend hosts its summer fête and fun dog show at Margam Country Park, from 11am - 4pm.

One of the day's highlights – the Fun Dog Show - will this year be judged by ITV Wales News presenter Francis Donovan alongside Dogs Trust Bridgend's resident vet Huw Davey.

There will also be fun fair rides, have-a-go agility, a doggy dash race, refreshment stalls and much more.

For more information, call the Dogs Trust on 01656 725219.

Heritage Coalition takes part in Armed Forces Day

THE sun shone and the crowds turned out in their thousands to pay tribute to the country's servicemen and women at Armed Forces Day on June 26.

The national event was held in the picturesque setting of Cardiff Bay and the Vale Heritage Centre Coalition joined the south Wales branch of the Western Front Association in the Pier Head building to stage an exhibition of militaria, ephemera and collectables from the Great War.

VHCC chairman Dr Jonathan Hicks said: "The items on display were from our own personal collections and it was a great opportunity for us to meet the public, talk about the items and discuss the Great War in general.

"We were also able to offer an on-line research service for people interested in knowing what their relatives did during the conflict. We were busy throughout the day and it showed how fascinated people are by the First World War.

"We also had a powerpoint presentation on the history of the war running on giant screens.

"One of our WFA members, Gavin Davies, gave three illustrated talks on Mametz Wood, Messines and 1918 to large audiences," he reported.

WARD ADVICE

THE Labour Vale and town councillors for Barry's Castleland ward, Chris Elmore, Pamela Drake and Karl Kuhnell will hold an advice surgery on Saturday, July 3 from 10:30am to 12pm in the Drop-In-Centre No3 Dunlin Court, Thompson Street Estate, Barry.

No appointment necessary. Contact Coun Chris Elmore on 07867 506 116.

Ty Hafan winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number 624.

- **£2000:** 270245.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £1,000 was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 212120; 302358; 409785; 142887; 316120; 501765; 407877; 118381; 207899; 759560; 486233; 243221; 886589; 853746; 447395; 894915; 843292; 226748; 456128; 801638 .
- **£5:** 547192; 697906; 192064; 667602; 182113; 701763; 234240; 344145; 391219; 628054; 770681; 612936; 371821; 693329; 877333; 158087; 208500; 266677; 366060; 353586; 558424; 582670; 412859; 817480; 106116; 786492; 889727; 612245; 838116; 685315; 792616; 530136; 268799; 851352; 378853; 826178; 760788; 120704; 552371; 378681; 694253; 994279; 144884; 813294; 644015; 559227; 854338; 763967; 423181; 385254; 501766; 887968; 611066; 258759; 328495; 514498; 633572; 410732; 538643; 848100.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 02920 672062.

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PALMERSTON EXHIBITION - PREPARE TO BE IMPRESSED

BELOW: Student Ellie Lewis shows her grand daughter some of the decoupage that will be on display.

THE preparations are well under way for the annual art and crafts exhibition at Palmerston community learning centre.

The event is held to celebrate the achievements of learners who have attended a wide range of adult education classes in the Barry area.

It is anticipated that there will be more than 300 exhibits on display at the exhibition from a variety of classes, including painting and drawings, photography, pottery and ceramics, kiln glass fusion, precious metals, clay and jewellery, stained glass, decoupage and cardcraft, patchwork, quilting and textiles.

"Visitors to our art exhibition are always amazed at the standard of work on display," said Debbie Lewis, adult education officer, "So prepare to be impressed!"

This year, there will be a number of stalls selling crafts and produce – along with a raffle, tombola and refreshments. All proceeds will go to Help the Heroes.

The event opens on Thursday July 8, at 6.30pm – 8.30pm and continues through July 9 and 10 from 9.30am to 3pm. Admission is free and anyone is welcome to drop in to the centre to browse and enjoy the exhibits.

Tutors and students will be on hand with demonstrations and to chat about the courses.

There will be the chance to try some of the activities, including decoupage and cardmaking, pottery and drawing.

Art tutor Gary Colston will be taking a free drawing workshop on Friday, July 9.

This is an ideal opportunity to find out more about new courses starting in September.

A limited number of places are available on the microwave glass workshop to be held on Saturday, 10am-4pm.

Vale of Glamorgan Community Learning
Annual Art & Crafts EXHIBITION
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MPN Windows, Doors and Conservatories was set up in 1994 by husband and wife team Paul and Melanie Webster. Since then they have grown into a large family supplier of top class products, from windows and doors to composite and bifoloding doors which are all made in Wales.

MPN Windows are members of the Prestige group of companies which make up Network Veka, and is endorsed by six times world snooker champion, Steve Davies.

MPN have a superb showroom in Bridgend and have just released a new pine look window, which will surely be a massive hit with customers. Be the first to have pine windows because they look fantastic.

For the months of July, August and September the company is offering special discounts, so be quick!

Also all conservatories will come with free tiling and underfloor heating and every full house of windows and doors will come with free vertical blinds. So pick up that phone and grab yourself a bargain.

Network Veka present awards to the best company every year and MPN were so proud when they were awarded it this year for service and commitment they have give to their customers.

• ***Steve Davies is pictured above presenting MPN with their award.***

So if you want award-winning windows and doors with an award-winning company, phone MPN Windows for your free quotation between 9am and 9pm 7 days a week. Tel. (01656) 812788; or visit either of our showrooms at Unit 2, Maesteg Business Centre, Maesteg, CF34 0BQ or 10a Ewenny Road, Bridgend, CF31 3HL.

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VWBN can help drum up business

AT our great fun event (*see advertisement below*) VWBN members and guests can expect to – learn to drum!

With the combination of top percussionist, session musician and workshop leader Iolo Whelan, plus the setting of the beautiful Round House Project at St Hilary, this event promises lots of laughter, and some fantastic laid-back networking!

For more information about the roundhouse and Iolo see **www.theroundhouse.org and www.iolowhelan.com**

Please join us on Wednesday, July 14. The cost of this event is £13 and tickets must be booked in advance. To book, or for more information on the benefits of networking and joining the VWBN contact members@vwbn.org.uk

Vale Women's Business Network
Drumming Up Business!
Wednesday, 14th July 2010
at
The Roundhouse, St Hilary, Vale of Glamorgan
from 6.30pm onwards
Guests and non-members are most welcome!
(Tickets - £13) Booking is essential for this event - please e-mail members@vwbn.org.uk to book.
www.vwbn.org.uk

Vocational training leads to a new career

A LOCAL woman, who worked for a car dealership for 20 years until the partnership dissolved, has embarked on a brand new career as a training supervisor, after updating her IT skills and completing vocational training.

Sharon Couchman had worked for the business as an office manager for 20 years, and when it dissolved, she joined another company in the hope of learning new skills.

However, after quickly realising the job wasn't for her, she approached Pitman Training Cardiff to study the Microsoft Office Diploma to update her IT skills and improve her chances of securing another job.

Sharon studied at the centre on days off from her job, working her way through Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Outlook, Excel, Access and account modules.

She finished the course in just three months, adding "I absolutely loved it. I found PowerPoint really interesting and I am now confident in putting together a presentation. I'd really only scratched the surface of Word in my previous job and there's no way I could do what I do now!"

ABOVE: Sharon Couchman

Sharon spotted a vacancy on the jobs board at Pitman Training for a training supervisor at the centre and applied.

"I had no teaching experience and there were two modules left to complete on my course but I knew I'd be able to help students as I had been there myself" she added.

Sure enough, Sharon impressed the interview panel and was offered the job.

"My advice to anyone thinking about learning something new is to just do it! It's a very user-friendly way of learning and you can fit it around your lifestyle."

To find out how you can get a better job and increase your career prospects, please call Pitman Training on 029 2034 2020, or visit www.pitman-training.com.

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MISS VALE WINS THE MISS WALES TITLE AT ST DAVID'S HALL

MISS Vale of Glamorgan, Courtenay Hamilton, was crowned Miss Wales at a glittering ceremony at St David's Hall in Cardiff on Saturday.

Courtenay (20) who lives on the Atlantic College site at St Donats, told The GEM: "At the moment I won, it was really emotional.

"Throughout the rehearsals, the interview and the three rounds, I just tried to be myself."

During the evening, the three rounds were: Welsh flag dress, partywear and evening gown – in all there were 50 girls from all over Wales taking part.

LEFT: The emotional moment when Courtenay realised she had won the Miss Wales title.

Courtenay later heard that her interview with the judges earlier in the day had put her in the lead.

A fluent Welsh speaker, who has been a volunteer crew member with the RNLI, Courtenay is now looking forward to the Miss World competition.

"It is being held in China on the island of Sanya in October.

"I will be doing a lot of charity work over the next year, and at Christmas, I will be accompanying children to Lapland on behalf of the Joshua Foundation."

This year, The Joshua Foundation, a south Wales charity which provides holidays for children with terminal cancer, has benefited to the tune of £70,000 thanks to the Miss Wales competition.

In Cowbridge, there was particular delight at the news of Courtenay's win. Cowbridge Fashion Week had sponsored her.

Awen Evans, the co-owner of High Society and a member of the Cowbridge Fashion Week committee, said: "It is fantastic that she won because she is such an all-round talent. I know that lots of people locally voted for her.

"After the win, her mum and dad popped into the shop to thank us for the sponsorship."

New Gavin and Stacey bus tour is launched

THE first official Gavin and Stacey bus tour is being launched on July 10 at the home of the show, Barry Island.

Run by 'Brit Movie Tours', and endorsed by the Vale Council and the show's producers Baby Cow Productions, the tour – using the authentic 'Dave's Coach' – will allow fans to see the key filming locations that were used across the county.

A Vale spokeswoman said: "There will be two types of tour – one that will bring fans to south Wales from London, and one that will start and end in Barry."

Llansannor chidren have enjoyable squash tournament

ON Saturday, June 26, Llansannor squash team went to the 'Squash Wales Mid Glamorgan Mini-Squash Championships' held in Pontyclun Primary School.

They had a fantastic time meeting new children and some old rivals. They played their socks off, even in the gruelling heat of Saturday.

The years 3 and 4 team consisting of Joseph Gregory, Elliot Cooper, Christopher Lewis, Evan Thomas, Thomas Humphreys and Caitlin Wilson played three very challenging teams. They played for two hours in the sweltering heat and managed to come second, taking home the silver medal.

The years 5 and 6 team consisting of Shaun Carpenter, William Brook, Harry Price, Sean Davies, Martha Holder and Alicia Thomas also battled long and hard and their work paid off with them also taking home the silver medal.

It was a very successful afternoon for team Llansannor with ten out of the sixteen places being awarded to our team.

A special mention goes to Alicia Thomas who faced a challenging, male dominated competition and came fourth, the highest placed year-six girl.

Miss Dicomidis and Miss Price would like to thank the whole team for all their efforts and the parents for bringing and supporting their children. Well done team Llansannor!

The results for individual events were:

Year 3 - 1st Edward Thomas, 2nd Christopher Lewis, 3rd Elliot Cooper.

Year 4 - 1st Evan Thomas, 3rd Barny Langton-Cryer.

Year 5 - 2nd Shaun Carpenter, 3rd William Brook, 4th Harry Price.

Year 6 - 3rd Iwan Goodwin, 4th Alicia Thomas.

Cowbridge Rotary: change at the top!

LAST Monday saw Dr David Pierce being installed as the new Rotary president for the year at Cowbridge.

As a final act of his presidential year, Rotarian JC Jones was able to present three awards for outstanding services to the community and the Rotary movement to Arthur Robins, Richard Griffiths and Bob Wilson (above).

Llangan's Anysha jets to USA and Miss Teen Galaxy contest

LLANGAN teenager Anysha Panesar jetted off to the United States on Tuesday (June 29) to represent Europe in the Detroit Finals of Miss Teen Galaxy.

Sixteen-year-old Anysha, who lives in the village of Llangan, just outside Cowbridge, first hit the headlines two years ago when she starred in an MTV programme entitled 'My Super Sweet 16'.

Anysha said: "I will be competing against girls from the states of America, the Bahamas and the UK."

As a Galaxy finalist, Anysha has to demonstrate a commitment to her local community and charity work.

She explained: "In the past I have done charity work for Ty Hafan, Latch and the Philip Green Memorial Fund, but I wanted to highlight some charities that people would not associate with young people.

"I ran the Rotary Club's Cardiff Fun Run two weeks ago, splitting the funds raised between the Red Cross, the British Heart Foundation, the RNLI and Riding for the Disabled.

"I then visited the four charities, spent time with them and hand over the cheques. I was honoured to be allowed out in an RNLI lifeboat!"

But that's not all – another cause she has supported is Help for Heroes which offers help to Service people injured in recent conflicts such as Afghanist and Iraq.

Anysha will be staying in America until August because she will compete in the Miss Teen World Finals in Texas as Miss Teen Wales starting on August 8.

She added: "Once I have finished the event in Texas, I will be returning home to get my GCSE results."

Over the past few weeks, Anysha has been helping to promote the new series of 'Sweet 16' for MTV. She is due to join Howells Sixth Form later this year.

ABOVE: Anysha will be representing Europe – and Wales – at the Miss Teen Galaxy competition being held in Detroit next month.

Law staff hold a tea party for Marie Curie

PARTNERS and staff at Larby Williams with Gwyn & Gwyn Solicitors recently held their third 'Blooming Great Tea Party' at their offices, to help raise funds for Marie Curie Cancer Care.

All the staff contributed by baking cakes and scones and providing raffle prizes, which resulted in a total of £400 being raised.

All the funds raised will allow more Marie Curie nurses to provide free care for people in their own homes or at the Penarth hospice.

Yacht Club's open day

THE annual open day at Barry Yacht Club attracted 26 people from all parts of the Vale to have a go at sailing on June 19.

Club members offered the chance to set sail in the Bristol Channel on cruising yachts.

Commenting on the open day, Howard Metcalfe, the Club's Commodore said: "It was great to see new people find out about the sailing opportunities and the excellent club facilities for those who just want to be social members. The club offers opportunities for non-boat owners, and those with their own craft, and also dinghy sailing with a wide programme of training courses, as well as a variety of social events throughout the year.

Based at The Pier Head Docks on Barry Island, Barry Yacht Club is regarded as offering the best sea sailing facilities in the Bristol Channel.

It currently has more than 250 members from all parts of the Vale and Cardiff area.

Ty Hafan fun day draws the crowds

Photographs by **IAN DIXON**

HUNDREDS of people headed to Sully on Sunday, June 27 for the Ty Hafan Fun Day.

As you can see from Ian Dixon's record of the day, there were lots of activities for the children, and things to see, including the fearsome stormtroopers!

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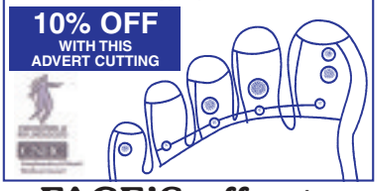

COMMUNITY NEWS
ST BRIDES MAJOR

Your local correspondent is Patricia Bevan-Morgan (01656) 880418

WHAT a coincidence! Reading in The GEM on Thursday the interesting subject of bees and swarming in Fonmon Apiary, it happened to David and Gwyneth Lewis (late of Penylan Farm) of St Brides Major on Wednesday of that week.

They discovered a swarm in their pear tree in the garden. Not knowing who to contact, ranger Paul Dunn of the Heritage Coast, a beekeeper, came along and collected them.

Beekeeping is an interesting subject I grew up with, as my family kept a number of hives for many years.

A BAPTISMAL Service took place on Sunday, June 20, at St Bridget's Church, when the Houston family (John, James and Jessica) were christened.

ST BRIDES MAJOR branch of the Mother's Union held their monthly Eucharist in All Saints Church, Southerndown. A coach trip has been arranged for a visit to Sudely Castle, Gloucester, with a lunch at nearby Winchcombe; also later in July, a lunch at Ogmore Farm.

FRIDAY June 25 was a superb afternoon when 15 people from the village and friends met at the Fox car park to embark onto a long trailer behind a monster tractor for a ride – courtesy of Peter Davies of Slade (Organic) Farm, Pitcot.

The guides on the journey over the fields were Belinda and Paul, with Richard the tractor driver.

We entered the fields opposite Ty Mawr (Great House), Southerndown, alongside footpaths 17 and 18 and continued through the organic crops with wonderful views of the coast and the peace of the countryside. With the wildlife and skylarks, it was wonderful.

We followed the fields towards the top of St Brides Major and saw all the pigs and piglets on the way, visited three enormous bulls in the farmyard, and also dropped into the shop selling organic meats.

On to Dunraven (Durval) Drive to Grand Lodge, now sadly in disrepair, and on past the Ice House and overlooking Temple Shore.

Everyone enjoyed the experience, including the 80 and 90-year-olds sitting on bales of straw!

Our grateful thanks to Peter for arranging this for folk who can no longer walk along these beautiful footpaths in our area.

CONGRATULATIONS and happy birthday to Ursula Sanger of St Brides Major, who celebrated her 'special' birthday with family and friends on June 28.

Glamorgan GEM Websites
News, Sport, Letters, Features, What's On, Jobs, Motors....

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FACE'S offer to GEM readers

FACIAL and Cosmetic Enhancement Clinic is at 27, Castle Arcade, Cardiff.

It has 20 years of experience in all advanced treatments and has also been nominated by Cardiff Life magazine as one of the top clinics in south Wales, and was a finalist in the Beauty Awards 2007.

The clinic prides itself on its professionalism and impartial advice, offering a free consultation with the highest standards possible.

The clinic is offering discounts (for GEM readers only): On fat removal, which is comparable to lyposuction, there is £300 off the treatment price; on the 'genie facelift', a facelift without surgery, there is £200 off the treatment price.

For more information, please go to www.facecosmetics.co.uk, or email info@facecosmetics.co.uk.

Beauty Clinic gives you a full treatment

MICHAELA GLASS, owner of the Beauty Clinic in High Street, Barry, has 20 years' experience in the beauty business.

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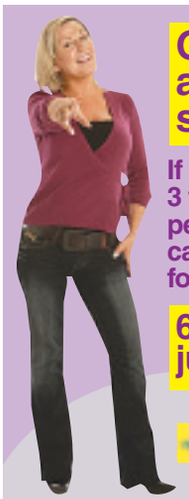
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Sarah's personal training will give your fitness a real boost

DOES your body need an overhaul? If so, then Sarah Thornhill, a qualified, advanced personal trainer, is the answer.

Sarah explained: "I am a qualified personal trainer, and also qualified in classes such as boxercise, kickboxercise, pilates, circuits, muscle max, legs, bums and tums exercise, group cycling, ante and post natal fitness, functional resistance, and sport specific training.

"I can also give advice on sports nutrition and exercise for older people.

"I can do group training or one-to-one sessions for either older people or young athletes – to lose weight, tone up, build muscle or for general health benefits.

"The sessions are fun and varied, using a variety of equipment, and I can help people to train in their own home or outdoors.

"Personal training includes a full health and fitness assessment with a body fat analysis looking at muscle mass, water percentage, fat percentage, visceral fat and fitness testing."

Sarah runs a 'ladies only' fitness class called 'Cardio Core Ladies' every Monday and Wednesday at the Colcot Community Centre from 7.30-8pm for only £3 each.

She added: "I can help people of all genders and ages to get the right fitness boost for them."

For more information, Sarah can be contacted on 07943 825 499.

Always consult your medical practitioner before undertaking any exercise or weight loss programme

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Velvet Touch will come and pamper you!

UNFORTUNATELY, The Velvet Touch has closed its salon in Rhoose, but Tracey is continuing to take appointments.

She is available for mobile business and is based in the Highlight Park area, Barry.

Velvet Touch is now offering a home service for pamper sessions, where a group can have reduced cost treatments in their own home!

Summer is here, so for those of you who have not had time to catch the rays, tanning parties are the answer.

Why not get a group of six together at £14 per time, and the hostess receives her tan free.

May I take this opportunity of thanking Keri, Laura, Kym and Danielle for all their support over the years and also the people of Rhoose who I hope to see soon!

For more information contact Tracey, The Velvet Touch on 07539564772.

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If you have never used a gym before, you don't have to feel intimidated as our staff are on hand to show you exactly what to do and how each piece of equipment works.

We offer a warm welcome to everyone. Don't take our word for it, why not come down and see for yourself or call Jennie or Mark on 01446 710386.

Remember, you do not have to be a member of the gym to use the pool or enjoy our facilities.

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or why not just pop down and have a look around? We are confident that you will like what you see . . .
*Initial £5 admin fee for over the counter payments

Cowbridge RFC is looking for new players for next season

COWBRIDGE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB
Cowbridge Rugby Club are looking to recruit new players for the forthcoming season.
The club currently runs two senior sides, together with youth and ladies teams.
We encourage players of all standards and are keen to welcome potential players, both new and old, at the club house. Senior teams are now training on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7pm, whilst the youth team trains from 6pm on Thursdays.
For more information please call
Dai Breed on 07896 997016

COWBRIDGE RFC is already looking ahead to next year, with the 'pre-season training' commencing today (Thursday, July 1).

The senior team is looking to build on the excellent spirit and effort that they finished with last season and the youth team will also be looking to repeat their successful campaign.

So any players out there, from youth to vets, young and old, you are welcome to join us at the rugby club.

Seniors train on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7pm and the youth team on Thursday evenings from 6pm.

For more information, please contact Dai Breed on 07896997016.

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Brand and Hill's rock 'n' roll comedy entertains but fails to hit the heights

SCREEN TALK

by GARETH JAMIESON

DESPITE having angered certain elements of Britain when having left answerphone messages on a certain elderly actor's answerphone, Russell Brand's career in America has gone from strength to strength.

Having built his recent reputation by squiring pop star du jour Katy Perry, and hosting the MTV Awards twice, Brand is revelling in his new-found fame, and finds himself on the big screen again in *Get Him To The Greek*.

Brand plays Aldous Snow, a character who most will remember from *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*, who is chased down by record company intern Aaron Green (Jonah Hill). Green is tasked with getting him to The Greek Theater in LA, scene of his finest hour 10 years previously.

But getting Snow there is anything but simple, with Green having to navigate a minefield of debauchery and madness in order to 'Get him to the Greek'...

While very funny, the character of Aldous Snow was hardly standout in *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*, nor was it one you felt had much in the way of mileage.

However, that film's director Nicholas Stoller obviously disagreed, and decided to both write and direct a film about Snow which, while amusing, never quite scales the comedic heights despite the talent on offer. While *Get Him To The Greek* certainly has its moments, there aren't enough of them to elevate it to being anything other than above average fare.

Given that Stoller obviously had a plan with where to take the character of Snow, he has opted for a straightforward and comedic route. Snow is a pompous rock star, unaware of anything other than his own sense of being, with little concern for those around him (imagine a pinch of Bono, a spoonful of Jim Morrison, the zest of Jagger and a dash of - unsurprisingly - Russell Brand).

Mixing this with the typical road movie premise, Green having to take Snow from London to LA in 72 hours, the resulting high jinks are easy enough to assume but don't quite come off.

Indeed, Stoller's script veers between the machinations of a road movie, while taking pot shots at artists who believe they are more than just 'singers', resulting in some superbly struck targets (Snow's African Child album is deemed to be the third most harmful thing to have ever happened to Africa for example).

While Stoller makes some humorous jabs at the music industry there is very little bite to it, content enough to rely on the more straightforward, and ever so often, crude humour intent on getting the bigger laughs.

It's a plan that doesn't quite pay dividends, giving a talented cast little room to play. When they are allowed off the leash, the results are very good, but outside of those times the gags, and performances, struggle to really breakthrough.

It is a similar story with his direction, Stoller bringing a professional sheen to proceedings and stages the concert footage with a keen eye. However, aside from a clever camera shot involving Jonah Hill being injected with adrenaline, Stoller's direction is little more than basic, a case of point the camera at the action and film - it doesn't really give the movie much in the way of pace or style.

The performances are the film's highlight, with leads Brand and Hill each showing why they are so highly regarded. For the former, this is his first foray into leading man territory and he handles it with skilful aplomb.

While his performance may be the biggest acting stretch since Eminem played a white, trailer park-dwelling rapper in *8 Mile*, Brand is never less than entertaining on screen, toning down his more eccentric flights of fancy to ground Snow in the world which he inhabits. He does the whole rock star thing perfectly, capturing the arrogance and belief that everyone around him is there for him only, yet is also able to show the heart of gold we all know lies beneath.

It is a turn of great confidence from Brand, while the occasional darker moments hint that the comedian may be able to transcend his comedy roots.

Jonah Hill similarly handles his move up the cast list well, again toning down his turn and playing foil to Brand's out of control whims. Hill has been a mainstay of Judd Apatow's work and delivers an assured turn that lacks the sparkle of Brand's, but makes up for it with enthusiasm and an ability to mine the slow building anger towards Snow.

With Rose Byrne showing a hitherto unseen comedic ability in the role of Snow's on/off girlfriend Jackie Q, some clever cameos from music figures, including a hugely amusing one from Metallica drummer/enemy of Napster Lars Ulrich, you have a cast that raises chuckles if not huge laughs; but the real revelation here is Sean 'Diddy' Combs.

His foul mouthed record company boss, Sergio Roma, is outstanding, veering off into wild tangents and threatening people's minds with something far worse than control, and plays a pivotal role in the film's funniest scene, where a Las Vegas party turns into a wild night that will put any viewers off having a 'Geoffrey' unless there is a furry wall close by (watch the film and it will all make sense!).

But despite the best efforts of Brand, Hill, Byrne and Combs, *Get Him To The Greek* doesn't fulfil the promise of raising the laughs you think it would.

Stoller's script tends to move things to dark places, particularly a final act move that feels both out of place and somewhat pointless come the conclusion. While Stoller's decision to include this does offer the film some depth, it doesn't quite pay off, and you wish there more jokes to come. The result is that *Get Him To The Greek* entertains, but never quite hits the heights.

VERDICT - Amusing but only fitfully laugh-out-loud funny, *Get Him To The Greek* is livened by the turns of Jonah Hill and particularly Russell Brand, who may well be able to do this role in his sleep, but does it extremely well. Nicholas Stoller's script and direction are never more than serviceable, but the comedy stylings make this a diverting, if ultimately slight, viewing experience. *Enjoyable.*

The GEM is in partnership with the Dog's Trust to find good homes for dogs at the Bridgend Rehoming Centre
(Telephone 01656 725219)

Can you give Rio a home?

THIS WEEK: Rio is a nine-month-old male medium-sized crossbreed.

A spokeswoman writes: "Rio is a sensitive and under-socialised young dog who can panic in new situations.

"He gets on well with other dogs and will benefit from living with another dog as he is much more confident around them.

"He is a lovely, sweet boy and he can be very affectionate once he gets to know you.

"He needs a home with someone who has owned dogs before. He will benefit from living with a well-adjusted dog. He can live with children of 11 years and over.

"He will benefit from attending a reward-based training class to help build up his confidence. He will need plenty of exercise and fun things to do to channel his energy in the right direction."

Animal action day

THE Cardiff and district branch of the RSPCA is offering local resident pet owners micro chipping and pet advice at 'Community Animal Action Day', today (July 1).

RSPCA staff, volunteers and pupils from Cowbridge Comprehensive School will be at hand in The Lesser Town Hall in Cowbridge from 10.30am - 3.30pm.

Cat and dog owners, can bring your pet along to be micro chipped, with a donation to cover costs requested.

"We would encourage local residents to take advantage of these special offers as we are only in Cowbridge for one day," Verity Huxtable, Branch Animal Welfare Officer said.

OCEAN LOUNGE · PORTHKERRY

Welcome to . . .

Porthkerry's Got Talent 2010

Sunday Nights from 18th July until 30th August

The first acts will start at 7pm

Final August Bank Holiday Monday

Please pick up an application form for the full list of dates

May we introduce you to Porthkerry's Got Talent 2010, the second year of our annual talent event at the Ocean Lounge, Porthkerry Leisure Park. We hope the show will encourage both amateur and semi-professional entertainers to enter and showcase their talent and maybe this could be their first steps into work professionally in holiday venues, corporate events, cruises and television.

With a prize fund of £600 and judged by celebrated professionals in the media and entertainment industries, the show will be seen by many people who will vote for their favourite acts through the Audience Vote.

The contest is open to anyone over the age of 14. We are looking for any type of act including speciality, vocalists, dancers, duo's, instrumentalists, etc. to perform at the Ocean Lounge where full music and lighting facilities will be available to showcase your act in the best possible professional surroundings. We are hoping for celebrity judges at our Final in order to attract substantially more media attention and we are very proud this year to be supporting and raising money for a very special charity.

There is a £10 per act entry fee, which has been charged to attract serious entrants and is used towards staging and production. For application into Porthkerry's Got Talent please ring 01446 710362/711538 or email us at lordyplums@hotmail.com

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AT THE
OCEAN LOUNGE
OPEN THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS & BANK HOLIDAYS

Friday 2nd July
MIKE ST JOHN Vocalist (9pm plus Bingo)

Saturday 3rd July
SMOKIN ACES
Classic Rock 'n' Roll Band (9pm)

Friday 9th July - KARAOKE

Saturday 10th July - HOG ROAST with THE WHISKY RIVER BAND
Freshly carved hog roast, fresh roll, salads, apple sauce and stuffing
followed by
Swamp Music and Blues of the Bayou.
A night of swamprockin' barnstorming Zydeco Blue!
Doors open 7pm – Ticket entry £10

SALSA LESSONS
starting Wednesday, July 7th
for 8 weeks - 7.30pm for 2 hours
followed by dancing til late – Only £4
Ideal for complete beginners

CAR BOOT SALE
Sunday 2pm - 5pm

Every Thursday: Curry & A Pint £5.99
7-9pm - Quiz from 8.30pm

FOOD SERVED
Great Value menu from only £4.99
Traditional Sunday Lunch
Served 12 noon - 3pm from only £6.95

Telephone: 01446 710362 / 711538

Open Wednesday, Thursday & Friday evening from 7pm. Saturdays 12 noon - 4pm and 7pm - 12 midnight
Sundays 12 midday - 10.30pm – From Mid-July we will be open for lunches and evening meals.

BRAINS

Out and About with The GEM

Local exchange student wins a Rotary prize!

Rotary Club president Don Carsley presents Cathrine with a new camera and £75.

BARRY Rotary Club have congratulated a young photographer who came top of 400 entrants.

Part of a series of youth competitions which Rotary runs to encourage attainment of student skills, 40 contestants entered the 'Young Photographer' competition under the leadership of teacher Sian Phillips from Barry Comprehensive School.

The theme this year was the environment, and Cathrine Minde's black and white entry, showing sand falling from a hand with the sea in the background was judged the best.

Brian Trego, one of the judges from Barry Camera Club for the competition, said it showed a remarkable ability - not only to photograph the scene - but to plan and set it up.

Cathrine's entry won not only the Barry competition, but then went on to win the South Wales event, finally coming second at the national staging.

It is also being taken forward into Europe. Unfortunately, Cathrine, an exchange student from Norway, was not able to attend the presentation at the Welsh Assembly on June 7 due to exams, but was later presented with a new camera, donated by Panasonic, and £75 by Barry Rotary Club president, Don Carsley.

Deafblind Cymru peer support group

DEAFBLIND Cymru have established a peer support group at Evergreen Hall in Bridgend, which meets on the first Tuesday of every month from 11am to 1pm.

There are speakers on audiology, from the police, fire department and Age Concern are attending to provide advice and information.

The group gives anyone with combined sight and hearing loss the opportunity to meet others, learn new skills and receive information. It welcomes new members, their carers, family or friends and also needs volunteers to help out at the group. *Contact Nerys Probert on 02920 601472 for further information.*

Friendship music Tree

THE Barry-based arts group is staging its next event under the 'Friendship Tree' in the tranquil setting of the Knap Gardens in Barry.

Share in a peaceful evening of acoustic music by Hank Hillman, on the theme of friendship.

The group also invites others to bring along any musical instruments and join in on Thursday, July 8, from 7.30pm.

For more information, contact: glyn@glynpooley.com.

Dyspraxia Group

THE next meeting of the Vale Dyspraxia Support Group will take place at 7.30pm on July 5, in the Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry.

The group provides support for children with dyspraxia and their families. It is running a laptop project to support pupils with dyspraxia.

Families of young people with dyspraxia and related conditions are welcome.

'I'm backing the carers' vows Vale MP Alun Cairns

"THE huge contribution made by carers in the Vale must be recognised by the local community," Tory MP Alun Cairns stated this week.

Statistics show that 76 per cent of people looking after ill, frail and disabled loved ones do not have a life outside of their caring role, facts highlighted during this Carers Week.

The MP for the Vale added: "Three quarters of carers say they have lost touch with friends or family and four out of five are worse off financially because of their caring role.

"Sadly, there is not enough support provided for them even though they save the country untold billions. That's why I am backing the Life of My Own Campaign launched in Carers Week."

CHARITY SALE

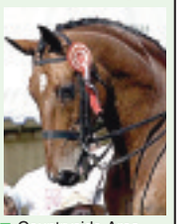
NEW Jerusalem Church in Barry is holding a table-top sale in the church hall on July 27 at 1pm and all proceeds will be donated to Ty Hafan hospice. Telephone 01446 406197 for further details.

SCOUT JUMBLE

THE 1st Dinas Powys scout group will hold a jumble sale on July 10, at 1.30pm in the Scout Hall, Highwalls Road, Dinas Powys. Admission 50p.

Car Boot Sale
Plus Ferret Racing and Circus Workshop
Every Sunday 2pm-5pm at The Ocean Lounge, Porthkerry Leisure Park, Rhoose
Telephone: 01446 710362

Vale of Glamorgan Show
Wednesday 11th August 2010
Fonmon Castle Park, nr Cardiff Airport
- James Dylan Stuntworld Display
- South Wales Police Dogs Display
- Cooke & Arkwright Food Hall
- Cardiff Airport Home Produce Show
- The Firewood Company Horticultural Show
- Cattle, Pigs, Sheep, Horses
- Craft Fair
- BSJA Show Jumping
- Countryside Area
- KC Dog Show
- Punch & Judy
- Over 200 Trade Stands



Contact 01446 710099
www.valeofglamorgan.co.uk
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Zenergy Psychic Fayre
Saturday, 17th July, 2010
10.00am - 6.00pm
Llantwit Major Rugby Club
Psychics, Tarot Readings, Holistic Therapists and New Age Gifts.
Free Entry. You choose which Psychic, Reader or Therapist you want.
Prices only £18 - £20
Come along and get the inspiration to take the reins of your life and live the life you desire.
Book now for our second **Spell Weaving Workshop in West Wales - Thursday, 5th August.**
Limited places. Cost of £109 includes workshop, transport and organic lunch.
Full details from **Zenergyinfo@yahoo.co.uk** or telephone: **07979 985630 or07840 867732**

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Sandwiches
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Cream Teas

and for our younger guests there is a *Dinky Dexters* menu - various tea time treats!

Dexters is a country tearoom where you can chill out!

DEXTERS @ FELINDRE MILL on the border of the Vale is a farm with a difference, and is just two minutes from J35/M4 and 10 minutes from Cowbridge.

Our country tearoom, set in a traditional timber-framed barn, offers morning coffee, light lunches and afternoon tea. There is even a tasty, dinky Dexters menu for the children! So if you are looking for somewhere to chill out, or meet friends for a coffee and a chat, why not call in and see us? We're sure Boris the cockerel and his brood of hens will be pleased to see you.

Linda, Geraint and family extend a warm welcome to you all.
Open Thursday to Sunday from July 8th
Selection of hand-made crafts and cards.

Dexters @ Felindre Mill
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☎ 01656 860017
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Please visit us and the animals soon!

Bridgend County Show
9th,10th & 11th July 2010
Pencoed College, Pencoed, J35 M4

Horses, Show Jumping, Gymkhana, Pony Club Games, Inter Hunt Challenge, Vintage & Classic Vehicles, Goat, Dog & Poultry Classes, Garden and Cookery Demonstrations, Trade Stands, Craft Stalls Sports Displays and Demos. Plus Much Much More
Free Parking, Licensed Bar.
Tel 01656 661338 email king-barry@btconnect.com

HELPING THE FIRST TIME HOME BUYERS

AN assisted home ownership scheme operated by Newydd Housing Association in partnership with the Vale Council will help first-time buyers in Barry to get their feet on the property ladder.

The Homebuy scheme, which has been awarded funding from the Welsh Assembly Government, will be available in Barry's Castleland ward (excluding properties on the Waterfront development) which was declared a renewal area in April 2010 and is prioritised for regeneration.

The scheme aims to help first-time buyers who can't afford to meet the full cost of a property purchase their first home on a 'shared equity' basis.

Buyers will be expected to contribute a mortgage covering 70 per cent of the property value, which they will then own. The remaining 30 per cent equity is retained by Newydd Housing Association, with the option to purchase at a later date enabling full home ownership. No rent is payable on this 30 per cent.

Buying a property through the Homebuy scheme will still incur the normal costs associated with buying a property on the open market, including valuation and survey fees, solicitor and land registry costs, search fees and stamp duty (if applicable).

However, a deposit is not required as this will be taken from the 30 per cent equity share owned by Newydd.

To be eligible for the scheme, applicants must:

- Be over 18 years of age,
- Be a UK or EU/EEA passport holder or have 'indefinite leave to remain' stamped in their passport,
- Have lived or worked in the Vale for six months,
- For those leaving the Armed Forces, have lived in the Vale for six months prior to joining the Armed Forces,
- Be able to meet the long-term financial commitment of home ownership but not be able to afford 100 per cent of the price of a property suitable for their need,
- Be a first-time buyer.

For more information or to apply for the scheme, please call the council's contact centre, contact OneVale, on 01446 700111 and ask for Homebuy.

Barrivale Bridge Club

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club:

June 15 – 1st, Jane Brook and Celia Thomas 63.49 per cent; 2nd, Denis Mottram and Noelle Bond 62.70 per cent, 3rd, Mark Roderick and Mike Close 61.90 per cent.

Jane and Celia also won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information, call 01446 733425.

PHOTO TALK

UNIVERSITY of the Third Age, Phillip John Room, Barry Library, Monday July 5: talk illustrated with photographs by Mr Bernard Brown.

COWBRIDGE THIRD TEAM ARE JUST PIPPED BY PONT

PONTARDAWE is a pleasant ground to play on, and for once the West Wales side was not relegated to an artificial strip.

The ground is surrounded by trees, with both a river and an old canal within walking distance for those of the batting side not on the field or scoring.

On this occasion, Pontardawe elected to go out into the scorching heat while Cowbridge batted. This initially looked a poor decision, as Michael Hordley set about the bowling while Jon Brazier supported him steadily from the other end after the loss of the number two.

Michael was eventually out for 35 and, with an encouraging input from Phil Graham (14) the score reached 88 for 3, Jon Brazier making 22.

From then on, apart from the welcome return of Nat Elliot Green, who also made 14, there was little batting success, and the total was only 126 all out.

Although some of the regular bowling was missing the recent discovery of new wicket-keeping talent allowed Michael Hordley to bowl through his overs without having to go behind the stumps afterwards, and in a very spirited attack he took five wickets for 33 runs.

When the opposition were on 76 for 6, with what was obviously a very young tail to come in, hopes were raised, but once again a senior player in the other side seized the game and Pontardawe lost no further wickets before they matched Cowbridge's total.

It may have been a losing game but it was played competitively to the end and the decision remained in doubt until the last few overs.

Who wants to build what and where?

*Mr David Evans – **David Evans Agricultural, Old Middle Hill, Walterston, Llancarfan** – retention of use for Barn No.1 for agricultural machinery*

*Mr McCarthy – **185 Gladstone Road, Barry** – conservatory to rear elevation,*

*Mr Wayne Roderick – **58 Millfield Drive, Cowbridge** – double storey side extension (east side).*

*Mr Chay Webb – **1 Friars Road, Barry** – proposed pitched roof side extension incorporating garage with floorspace above.*

*Mr Duncan John – **1 Cold Knap Way, Barry** – demolish dilapidated plant house/greenhouse, porch and WC. Construct single storey building.*

*Broadlands Property Investments – **1 Mill Barns, Mill Road, Boverton** – change of use of summer house to a single dwelling.*

*Mr Gwyn Jones – **3 Cambrian Avenue, Llantwit Major** – single storey side extension to kitchen.*

*The Church in Wales – **The Rectory, Llantwit Major** – works to various trees.*

*Mrs Anne Germanacos –2 **White House, Cold Knap, Barry** – installation of pc garage door to existing carport, to match existing adjacent garage door.*

*Mr A Reid – **Glenview House, Llanbethery** – proposed single storey porch to the rear elevation.*

*Mr Mark Hitchcock – **Chy Avallan, Church Road, Llanblethian** – proposed amendments to planning approval 2009/00999FUL to increase single storey extension to form kitchen and breakfast area by 1 metre.*

*Mr Heddy Navidi – **1 Mill Barn, Boverton Mill Barns, Boverton** – proposed new vehicular access and drive, together with a double garage/stable and separate double garage.*

*Mr D Ellis-Thomas – **6 Norman Cottages, Michaelston Le Pit –** fell Ash and coppice Field Maple.*

*Mrs Catriona Davies – **Mulberry House, Trerhyngyll** – erection of stables within residential curtilage.*

*Mr D Ellis Thomas – **3 Norman Cottages, Michaelston Le Pit** – fell Lawson Cypress.*

*Mr Rehaz Abdoolla – **40 High Street, Barry** – existing ground floor office to be conveted into one bedroom self–contained apartment.*

*Mr Stephen Jenkins – **6 Church Road, Penarth** – reduce in size and single storey side extension at the rear of the property.*

*Mr and Mrs Sadler – **65 Westbourne Road, Penarth** – construction of single storey rear extension and alterations to roof of existing single storey rear annexe.*

*Mr David Pegg – **78 Castle Avenue, Penarth** – retention of car port.*

*Mr and Mrs Davies – **7 Kestrel Way, Lavernock Park, Penarth** – conservatory extension to rear elevation.*

*Mr Larry Dean – **24 Clos Yr Wylan, Barry** – porch on front of house.*

*Jane Goodfellow – **1 Gelli Garn Cottage,s St Mary Hill** – proposed two storey extension to side and rear of existing house and addition of a double garage.*

*Mr John Butcher – **167 Pontypridd Road, Barry** – single storey shower room extension.*

*Emmett Wales Ltd – **land to the north west of Unit 14, Heritage Business Park, Llantwit Major** – change of use of land for seasonal agricultural workers' accommodation.*

*Mr Bernard Moser – **37 Whitcliffe Drive, Penarth** – proposed extension and balcony.*

*Mr and Mrs Stuart and Andrea Pace – **Treetops, Leckwith Road, Llandough** – proposed works to comprise an extension to first floor over existing garage and single storey extensions to rear.*

*Mr and Mrs Killick – **19 Broadway, Cowbridge** – dismantle conifer, 2-3m crown reduction to purple plum, dismantle holly.*

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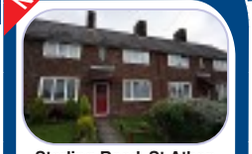

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Church Meadow, Boverton
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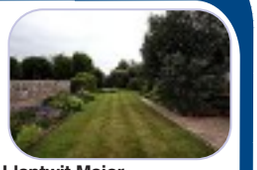

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Well Presented Semi Det Bungalow, 3 Bedrooms, Extended Lounge, Sought After Location, Gas Fired Heating, Dble Glazed, Southerly Gardens, Ample Drive With Garage.
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LETTINGS

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4 Redwood Close Boverton - £500 pcm
Unfurnished two bed retirement first floor flat.
40 Clos Ogney - £500 pcm
Unfurnished two bed property. Viewing highly recommended.
41 Llys Dwynwen - £525 pcm
Two bed mid link property with conservatory. Off road parking.
22 Kendrick Road, Barry - £550
Unfurnished 3 bed house.
24 Shackleton Close St Athan - £550 pcm
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34 Bryn Y Gloyn, Rhoose Point - £795 pcm
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12 Church Meadow, Boverton - £795 pcm
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20 Cwrt Newton Pool, Rhoose - £795 pcm
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48 Bryn Y Gloyn, Rhoose Point - £1,000 pcm
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145 Fontygary Road, Rhoose - £1,000 pcm
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To view any of these properties please contact:
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TWO WINS FOR BARRY ATHLETIC UNDER-11s

ON a cold evening, Barry Athletic under-11s were the visitors at Dinas Powys.

Dinas Powys won the toss and the skipper put Barry in to bat first. Barry lost an early wicket after good fielding from Dinas, but after this there was some sensible defensive batting from both Calvin Fahiya and Lawrence Walpole, working the ball around for singles and keeping the scorecard moving.

It was important when Saul and Rhys came to the crease that they applied the same determination, and with some fine bowling from Dinas, the boys did well to only lose one more wicket. Sam and Joel increased the run rate in the middle of the innings, with Sam managing to hit three boundaries.

Joel, Calvin and Evan also managed to hit fours during a very good innings.

The best bowling performances went to Rhys, Connor, Luke and Jack L.

Best batting performances went to Sam, Calvin and Joel, all showing great technique.

The Dinas Powys innings was very steady and the game was even until a great two overs from Lawrence Walpole (with three wickets) managed to put Barry well in the driving seat.

In between, Rhys Woolmer bowled some fine line and length.

Unfortunately for the Dinas lads, once you lose some wickets you are always chasing and having to play more shots to catch up with the run rate. This was their downfall as further wickets fell to Joel, Sam Evan and Calvin.

There was also a catch for wicketkeeper Sam Hopkins and a run-out by Rhys and Lewis.

Best bowling, Lawrence three wickets for 4 runs and Joel, two wickets for 5 runs.

Both wicketkeepers performed well, with good ground fielding by Calvin and Evan.

Result: Barry won by 68 runs. Man of the match – Lawrence Walpole.

Under-11s at Cowbridge

This was a good win for Barry, after managing to score 10 boundaries in their innings of 306 – the main stars of the innings being Evan Wells and Calvin Fahiya.

There was some very good bowling by Lewis Thomas and Ieuan Moss, both taking wickets.

The Barry bowling attack looked very strong and there was a great deal of consistency in line and length.

Once again, the star man was Evan Wells taking two wickets, but also there were two cracking spells of bowling by new boys Cameron and Kieran. Both demonstrated some excellent all round skills in their first outing for the club.

Barry swimmers celebrate batch of personal bests

RIGHT: Kyle Booth, Sam Smith, Elizabeth McCulloch and Ellie Booth

RECENTLY, members of the Barry Amateur Swimming Club took part in the south east Wales regional junior development meet.

The event saw a large number of swimmers from across the area take part in a pentathlon swim over the two days. All swimmers competed in each event (freestyle, breaststroke, butterfly, backstroke and individual medley).

The times from each event were added together to produce the top six swimmers in each age group.

Elizabeth McCulloch in the 10-year-old age group finished in bronze medal position after the five events, producing five personal bests and in doing so she shaved 15.81 seconds off her previous best time in the 200m freestyle with a time of 2:55:39, and in the 100m butterfly, reducing her time by more than one minute 15 seconds to produce a time a 1:45:48.

Ellie Booth (11 years) finished fourth overall in her age group, also with personal bests in her five events, notably 100m butterfly 1:42:09 reducing her previous best by 7.5 seconds.

The boys, not wanting to be outdone, produced a number of fast times. Taking part were Sam Smith (10 years) with a terrific 50m breaststroke result of 1:14:72 shaving off 20.34 seconds from his previous best.

The youngest member, Kyle Booth (eight), having to swim in the 8/9 years age group, produced a great swim in the 100m individual medley 1:57:87, taking off nine seconds from his previous best.

Barry Amateur Swimming Club is always looking for new members to join the club. Telephone Mrs Heulwen Cooper on 01446 733784.

HM

KENFIG HILL TRAINER'S LATEST WIN

ON AND OFF THE TURF with BRIAN LEE

FIVE-YEAR-OLD *Benedict Spirit*, trained at Kenfig Hill by John Flint and ridden by his son Rhys, landed the Banner Marquees Maiden Hurdle (division one) at Uttoxeter on Sunday.

In doing so he beat another locally-trained horse, *Our Guardian Angel*, trained by Tim Vaughan at Aberthin and ridden by stable jockey Richard Johnson. Benedict *Benedict Spirit,* who won by a length was a 2-1 chance.

There was another Welsh one – two when former point-to-pointer *Fealing Real*, trained by Rebecca Curtis, and ridden by champion jockey Tony McCoy, made all the running to beat *Corse Palladio,* trained by Peter Bowen.at Newton Abbot.

Tim Vaughan had a double with *Kopylova* and *Maggie Aron,* while Llancarfan's Evan Williams won the opener with *Tin Pot Man*.

Both trainers saddled winners at the Bangor-on-Dee evening meeting. Williams scoring with *Beyond* and Vaughan with *Spirit Of Adjisa*.

Earlier in the day at Southwell, Williams won with *Cannon Fire* and Vaughan with *Lady Soughton*.

These two Vale trainers have certainly made a name for themselves in the world of horse racing.

You can email your news/views to Brian Lee at leebrian@btinternet.com or phone him on 02920736438.

We welcome your sports reports: ***gemsales@internet-today.co.uk***

DEDDF CYNULLUNIO GWLAD A THREF 1990

GORCHYMYN CAU PRIFFYRDD (BEACH ROAD, MARCROES, LLANILLTUD FAWR, BRO MORGANNWG) 2010

HYSBYSIR DRWY HYN fod Gweinidogion Cymru wedi gwneud Gorchymyn o dan Adran 247 o Deddf Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref 1990 i awdurdodi cau rhannau o'r briffordd o ddisgrifir yn Atodlen 1 i'r Hysbysiad hwn.

Ni cheir awdurdod i gau'r briffordd ond er mwyn galluogi'r datblygiad a ddisgrifir yn Atodlen 2 i'r Hysbysiad hwn gael ei wneud. Bydd y Gorchymyn hwn yn peidio â bod yn effeithiol os daw'r caniatâd cynllunio i ben neu os dirymir ef.

Gellir archwilio copïau o'r Gorchymyn a'r plan a adneuwyd yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol yng Nghyngor Bro Morgannwg, The Alps, Gwenfô, Bro Morgannwg CF5 6AA neu gellir eu cael yn rhad ac am ddim o'r cyfeiriad isod drwy ddyfynnu cyfeirnod Llywodraeth Cymulliad Cymru CZ510-5-72-qA846497/1.

Os bydd unrhyw berson yn dymuno herio dilysrwydd y Gorchymyn, neu ddilysrwydd unrhyw ddarpariaeth sydd ynddo, ar y seil:

a. nad yw o fewn pwerau Deddf Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref 1990; neu

b. bod ei fuddiannau wedi cael eu rhagfarnu'n sylweddol oherwydd methiant i gydymffurfio ag unrhyw un o ofynion y Ddeddf,

caiff y person hwnnw, o fewn 6 wythnos i 1 Gorfennaf 2010, wneud cais i'r Uchel Lys am atal neu ddiddymu'r Gorchymyn neu unrhyw ddarpariaeth a geir ynddo.

Gellir gweld copi o'r Gorchymyn a'r Hysbysiad ar wefan Llywodraeth Cymulliad Cymru yn www.cymru.gov.uk (Detholer: Deddfwriaeth/Is-ddeddfwriaeth/Offerynnau Amrtatudol/Trafnidiaeth Cymru/Gorchmynion Cau Priffyrdd Deddf Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref/2010).

M D BURNELL
Yr Is-adran Cynllunio a Llywodraethu Trafnidiaeth

YR ATODLENNI

ATODLEN 1

(bras amcan yw pob mesuriad)

Disgrifiad o'r rhannau o briffordd sydd i'w cau o dan y Gorchymyn hwn.

Rhan o briffordd bob pwrpas ar siâp triongl ar ochr ddwyreiniol ysgubor segur (rhan o Village Farm, Marcroes) a elwir Beach Road wrth ei chyffordd â Ffordd Llanilltud gyferbyn â Castle Farm House sy'n mesur 14.6 o fetrau sgwâr a ddynodir yn ardal A ar y plan a adneuwyd.

Rhan o briffordd bob pwrpas ar siâp triongl ar ochr ogleddi-ddwyreiniol ysgubor segur (rhan o Village Farm, Marcroes) a elwir Beach Road wrth ei chyffordd â Ffordd Llanilltud gyferbyn â Castle Farm House sy'n mesur 3.1 metr sgwâr a ddynodir yn ardal B ar y plan a adneuwyd.

Rhan o briffordd bob pwrpas ar siâp triongl ar ochr orllewinol ysgubor segur (rhan o Village Farm, Marcroes) a elwir Beach Road wrth ei chyffordd â Ffordd Llanilltud gyferbyn â Horse Shoe Inn sy'n mesur 267.5 o fetrau sgwâr a ddynodir yn ardal C ar y plan a adneuwyd.

ATODLEN 2

Disgrifiad o'r datblygiad arfaethedig.

Trosi adeilad fferm sy'n segur yn anneddi yn Village Farm, Marcroes, Bro Morgannwg yn unol â chaniatâd cynllunio a roddwyd pan wneed apêl gan Arolygydd a benodwyd gan Weinidogion Cymru ar 23 Ebrill 2008 o dan Gyfeirnod Apêl APP/2695/A/08/2063400.

GELLIR CAEL COPI PRINT BRAS O'R HYSBYSIAD HWN GAN IS-ADRAN CYNLLUNIO A LLYWODRAETHU TRAFNIDIAETH 3, LLYWODRAETH CYNULLIAD CYMRU, PARC CATHAYS, CAERDYDD CF10 3NQ.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

THE STOPPING UP OF HIGHWAYS (BEACH ROAD, MARCROSS, LLANTWIT MAJOR, VALE OF GLAMORGAN) ORDER 2010

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Welsh Ministers have made an Order under Section 247 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, to authorise the stopping up of the areas of highway described in Schedule 1 to this Notice.

The stopping up is authorised only in order to enable the development described in Schedule 2 to this Notice to be carried out. The Order ceases to have effect if the planning permission expires or is revoked.

Copies of the Order and the deposited plan may be inspected free of charge during normal opening hours at The Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe, Vale of Glamorgan CF5 6AA or may be obtained free of charge from the address below quoting the Welsh Assembly Government reference CZ510-5-72-qA846497/1.

If any person desires to question the validity of the Order, or of any of the provisions contained therein, on the grounds:

a. that it is not within the powers of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990; or

b. that their interests have been substantially prejudiced by a failure to comply with any of the requirements of the Act;

that person may, within 6 weeks of 1 July 2010, apply to the High Court for the suspension or quashing of the Order or of any provision contained therein.

A copy of the Order and Notice can be viewed on the Welsh Assembly Government's website at www.wales.gov.uk (select: Legislation/Subordinate Legislation/Non-Statutory Instruments/Transport, Wales/TCPA Stopping Up Orders/2010).

M D BURNELL
Transport Planning & Governance Division

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1

(all measurements are approximate)

Description of the areas of highway to be stopped up under this Order.

A triangular shaped area of all purpose highway on the eastern side of the redundant barn (part of Village Farm, Marcross) known as Beach Road at its junction with Llantwit Road opposite Castle Farm House and measuring 14.6 square metres identified as area A on the deposited plan.

A triangular shaped area of all purpose highway on the north eastern side of the redundant barn (part of Village Farm, Marcross) known as Beach Road at its junction with Llantwit Road opposite Castle Farm House and measuring 3.1 square metres identified as area B on the deposited plan.

An irregular shaped area of all purpose highway on the western side of the redundant barn (part of Village Farm, Marcross) known as Beach Road at its junction with Llantwit Road opposite Horse Shoe Inn and measuring 267.5 square metres identified as area C on the deposited plan.

SCHEDULE 2

Description of the proposed development.

The conversion of a redundant farm building into a dwelling at Village Farm, Marcross, Vale of Glamorgan in accordance with the planning permission granted on appeal by an inspector appointed by the Welsh Ministers on 23 April 2008 under Appeal Reference APP/2695/A/08/2063400.

A COPY OF THIS NOTICE IN LARGER PRINT CAN BE OBTAINED FROM TRANSPORT PLANNING & GOVERNANCE DIVISION 3, WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT, CATHAYS PARK, CARDIFF CF10 3NQ.

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Love Phil *XXX*

THOMAS
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David, Jillian and family would like to sincerely thank all those who attended Susie's funeral and Thanksgiving service at Coychurch Crematorium on June 23, and for their generous donations in lieu of flowers to Macmillan Nurses. Also, for all the support, help and genuine kindness shown by so many at this very sad time.

GRIFFITHS
Dewi
Passed away on June 28th aged just 68.
He was a loving husband to Jennifer and devoted grandfather to Gwen.
He is joining his beloved daughter Amanda. Jennifer, Gwen, his family and his many, many friends will miss him always.
Funeral service at Ewenny Priory Church, Ewenny, Monday, July 5th at 2pm. Family flowers only please.
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Graham POOLE
David and family would like to thank everyone for their support at, and following, the funeral of his father.

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LATEST NEWS FROM PENARTH COMPUTER CLUB

Keeping your home network safe and secure

NOBODY goes on holiday locking all the windows and leaving the front door wide open – Chris made the comment during his talk on why and how to keep a home network secure.

Do you have a network? If you have several pieces of kit connected together, yes you do.

If they are connected by cables, there is little danger of intrusion, providing your access to the internet is secure.

There are, however, many advantages to having a wireless network – apart from fewer cables.

You can use a laptop anywhere, even in the garden. Several computers can share one printer.

Files can be shared without having to copy them to an intermediate device, such as a CD or a flash drive.

But you must ensure security. Wireless transmissions can be picked up from the road outside your house just as easily as in your garden; after all, that is precisely what modern laptops are designed to do – pick up transmissions.

It is vital that your signal cannot be used unless your access code is known.

The code is set by the original manufacturer. If it is a secure code it will be fine.

If it is a standard default code, it can be known to someone who wants to hi-jack your network. It is crazy not to change it and 'leave the front door open'.

At this point, Chris reminded everyone that all equipment carries a code hard-wired into it by the manufacturer to identify the equipment precisely to other pieces of equipment that need to talk to it, including your internet access device.

Your access will also have an internet address.

All this means it is possible to identify your network as the destination of any illegal downloads.

It makes sense to protect your system to avoid being held responsible for a hacker's illegal download.

Chris then gave several tips on how to keep things safe: Every system has an administrator who sets up standard accounts for other users.

An administrator might well set up a standard account for him/herself for normal use.

In that case, if anyone should access his/her standard account, they will not be able to interfere with other accounts or with the system.

Passwords should be strong. That means impossible to guess; not birthdays, house numbers, pet's names etc.

They should include capitals and lower case letters, numbers and unusual keyboard characters such as £$%&.

They must also be memorable.

Suggestions were the number plate of a first ever car; a line of a favourite poem or a family saying.

A final note: if the kit is not switched on it cannot be hacked. If it is not being used, switch it off.

HOWARD DESMOND

Schools told to watch for 'choking' craze

SCHOOLS in the Vale have been told to look out for signs of pupils who might try a new 'craze' – which is said to involve choking each other.

The GEM was approached by a concerned mother of a 12-year-old boy who attends a school in the Vale. She reported that one day, her son came home with marks on his neck, and admitted after being questioned that he and his friends had been playing a 'dare' game.

She said that the game involved holding their breath while friends 'choked' them - to see how long they could last before passing out.

She said that they had been taught what to do by some boys from another Vale school.

She added that she had raised the issue with the headteacher at the school.

The Vale Council issued a response, and Caroline Rees, head of services for additional learning needs, said: "We have been contacted by a secondary school in the area, who advised us of a single incident, which has since been addressed.

"We are happy that the issue has been dealt with by the school, and trust that no further incidents will occur.

"We will be contacting other schools in the Vale to make them aware of the issue, and will provide advice where appropriate."

Peterston-super-Ely community event is an excellent way to relax on Fathers' Day

ST PETER'S CHURCH in Peterston-super-Ely hosted a special Fathers' Day party recently.

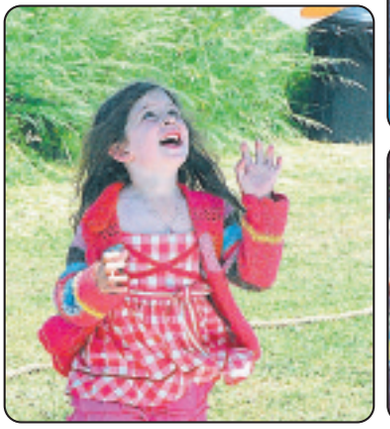
The fun day was held in the community field with a picnic, music, games and (of course) a bar!

There was entertainment from a brass band, made up of students from the Welsh College of Music and Drama, and a performance from the St Peter's Church choir, conducted by James Bull.

Photographs by IAN DIXON

RIGHT: *It was perfect weather for putting a sun hat on your little one and relaxing on the village green with a cool drink!*

BELOW: *Something is just out of reach!*



VALE KARATE ARE NAMED 'TEAM OF THE YEAR' AT SPORTING HONOURS EVENT

ABOVE:
Guest speakers and award presentes Gareth Humphries with host Arfon Haines-Davies.

Team of the year winners, Vale Karate.

THE sporting exploits of elite athletes, up and coming stars, and coaches and volunteers in the Vale have been recognised at the county's annual 'Sports Personality of the Year' awards.

Organised by the Vale District Sports Council and supported by the Vale Council's sports and play development team, the ceremony was held at the Memorial Hall in Barry and rewarded achievements on the sporting scene during 2009.

In all, there were nine awards and the winners came from a vast array of sports, highlighting the depth and variety of sporting talent in the Vale.

In the senior awards, Barry boxer Andrew Selby added to his 'Best Welsh Boxer of the Year' title by scooping the Vale's Senior Male award, and he will be hoping for further glory when he competes at the Commonwealth Games later this year.

In the Senior Female category, Penarth resident Hannah Fisher pipped skier Alice Hales to the award for her international lacrosse success.

Sixteen-year-old swimmer Ieuan Lloyd won gold and silver medals at the European Youth Olympic Festival in July 2009, earning him the Vale's Junior Male award, while all-rounder Katie Bradbury was named Junior Female of the Year for her unique achievement of gaining international honours in two very different sports at the same time – squash and golf.

Another multi-talented athlete to collect an award was James Savory in the Disabled Sports Performer category, while Volunteer of the Year was Ann Horgan for her enthusiasm and devotion to Barry Beavers Disabled Swimming Club.

In the coaching categories, Suzanne Portsmouth was named Community Coach of the Year for the key role she plays at Caerau Vale Trampolining Club, while Pete Haysham's outstanding success as Men's Gymnastics Coach of the Barry YMCA and Welsh national teams saw him take the Performance Coach title.

In the final award, the hundreds of medals picked up at events all over Europe by Vale Karate during 2009 earned them the 'Team of the Year' accolade.

Delighted with the evening's success, the chair of the Vale District Sports Council, Tony Smith, said: "Everyone who was nominated for an award can be very proud of their achievements.

"It gives us great pleasure to acknowledge everyone's efforts, and I would also like to thank all the event and individual award sponsors for their support."

Among those present to hand out awards was Coun Anthony Ernest, the Vale Council's cabinet member for leisure and tourism, who said: "I would like to thank the Vale District Sports Council as the awards evening was a great success and showcased the commitment of every award winner and runner-up to their chosen sport.

"It must have been extremely difficult for the judges to select the winners, all of whom have cemented their place in the Vale's sporting history alongside heroes such as Nicole Cooke and David Davies."

ABOVE:
Award winners Ieuan Lloyd (Junior Male), Katie Bradbury (Junior Female) and James Savory (Disability Sport).

FULL RESULTS LIST:
Senior Male (Award sponsored by the Community Chest scheme) – Winner: Andrew Selby (boxing); runners-up: Nathan Mullett (gymnastics) and Clinton Purnell (gymnastics).
Senior Female (Award sponsored by the Community Chest scheme) – Winner: Hannah Fisher (lacrosse); runner-up: Alice Hales (skiing).
Junior Male (Award sponsored by the Vale Children and Young People's Partnership) – Winner: Ieuan Lloyd (swimming); runners-up: Samuel Stephens (skiing), Tom Harvey (karting) and Jamie Viscount (boxing).
Junior Female (Award sponsored by the Vale Children and Young People's Partnership) – Winner: Katie Bradbury (squash and golf); runners-up: Ruby Ellis (cycling) and Bethan Moorcraft (cricket).
Disability Sport (Award sponsored by Gwyneth Lingard and Vale Allsports Club) – Winner: James Savory (talented multi-sportsman); runners-up: Shannon Rogers (swimming) and James Jones (swimming).
Volunteer (Award sponsored by the Vale of Glamorgan Training Association) – Winner: Ann Horgan (Barry Beavers Disabled Swimming Club); runners-up: Michael Mepham (Barry RFC Veterans) and Anne Thomas (gymnastics).
Community Coach (Award sponsored by Barry Town Council) – Winner: Suzanne Portsmouth (Caerau Vale Trampolining Club); runners-up: Fay Benningwood (Barry YMCA Gymnastics), Mike Dixon (Llantwit Major Boxing Club) and Rob Copeland (Vale Karate).
Performance Coach (Award sponsored by the Vale of Glamorgan Council) – Winner: Pete Haysham (Coach to Barry MYCA and Wales Men's Gymnastics Teams); runners-up: Ron Gurd (Colcot Boxing Club), Chris Rees (badminton coach) and Gareth Reynolds (Vale Karate).
Team (Award sponsored by South Wales Police RFC) – Winner: Vale Karate; runners-Up: Seaview RFC, Barry YMCA Men's Gymnastics Team and Barry RFC Veterans.

Performance coach of the year Pete Haysham with Leader of the Vale Council Coun Gordon Kemp (left) and Coun Anthony Ernest, Vale Council cabinet member for leisure and tourism (right).

Suzanne Portsmouth, Community Coach of the Year, with Barry Town Mayor Coun Karl Kuhnell, awards host Arfon Haines-Davies, and Gwyneth Lingard.

Mr Hall from the Vale of Glamorgan training Association presents Ann Horgan with her Volunteer of the Year award.

A pair of good results for Llantwit men's bowls team

LLANTWIT had an easy victory in the Munro Cup on Wednesday when they visited local rivals Rhoose, winning on all rinks 97-38 shots.

Graham Jones' rink had an early scare when they found themselves six shots to one down, before finding their length to coast to a comfortable win.

Mike Williams' rink had an unfamiliar look about it, comprising mainly of A team players, who all performed well to win by 12 clear shots.

Neville Young's rink were also loaded with A team players who again came up to the mark, with Arthur Harvey having an exceptional game.

Alan Gibbard's rink was full of first team players and they outclassed Rhoose to win by 26 shots.

Rink scores: GJ 22-11, MW 20-8, NY 22-12, AG 33-7.

On Saturday, Llantwit maintained their unbeaten record in the league with their fourth win, at Murch BC (Dinas Powys) in a 106–77 shot win.

A Gibbard's rink kept up their unbeaten run in the league., demolishing the opposition and scoring six shots on two ends. In the process, they amassed a 24-shot margin.

Charles Hiscock's rink were down in the early stages, recovering to take the lead, only to lose it again before composing themselves to win by seven shots.

Graham Jones' rink had no problems taking an early lead, and kept up the momentum until the end to win by 12 shots.

Danny Ahearn's rink started well, taking the lead on the eighth end, only to lose it on the next end.

They then suffered a six-shot loss which they never recovered from, with the rink never coming to terms with the vagaries of the green.

Rink scores: AG 40-16, CH 22-15, GJ 27-15, DA 17-31.

Great victory for midweek Cavs

LLANTWIT can once again thank James Snelson, aided by some good fielding for this four-wicket win over the Wanderers at Windmill Lane last Wednesday.

The visitors won the toss and got off to a good start, with opener N Baker going on to hit 101 before being caught on the boundary by Jonathan Cheal.

Jake McNaughton had earlier caught opener Phillips (19) and James Snelson held a cracking one-handed catch to dismiss A.Baker (28) just as he was beginning to cut loose.

Mike Wood (2 for 3 off 4 overs) and Snelson (2 for 35 off 4) were the Cavaliers wicket takers, with Dave Cheal the pick of the other bowlers .

Llantit looked in trouble at 5 for 2 in reply, before Snelson hit an amazing 93 including seven sixes and seven fours to once again claim man of the match – a good knock,seven short of a good score as one person put it,tongue in cheek !

Mike Wood (37) was the other star batsman as the Cavaliers strolled home with five balls to spare.

Llantwit Major Cavaliers Midweek X1 176 for 6 Beat Barry Wanderers 175 for 4.

Mixed results for Llantwit ladies

LLANTWIT ladies bowls team travelled to Pengelli BC (Treorchy) last week to play in the Cowbridge Challenge Shield and won on two rinks, and lost on one, so gaining eight points from 10.

The rinks were: Kay Johnes, Margaret Morgan, Peggy Pike and Carol Willmot, 15-2. Barbara Lewis, Ann Mutlow, Etta Gray and Eryl Nicholls, 15-17. Edna Hardie. Marian Lewis, May Davies and Jean Voss, 18 -15.

It was a different story when they welcomed Barry Romilly BC for a league match losing on all rinks.

The visitors found the green a lot better than we did and deserved to win.

The rinks were: Edna Hardie, Margaret Morgan,Carol Willmot and Marian Lewis 6-18. Kay Johnes, Ann Mutlow, Peggy Pike and May Davies, 9-21. Liz Crouch, Barbara Lewis, Eryl Nicholls and Etta Gray, 8-24.

KJ

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Cd, elec windows, c/locking, choice

08 08 KA Style Climate

£4495

Air con, quickclear, electrics, choice

07 07 PEUGEOT 107 1.0 Urban 5-dr

£4995

Air con, cd, electrics

FOCUS 1.6 Titanium 5-dr

09 09 **£9995**

09 59 **£10495**

Alloys, cruise, sony cd, 17" alloys, choice

07 07 SCENIC 1.6 Dynamique

£5995

Air con, electrics, alloys, rain headlight sensors, choice

06 56 FOCUS ST 2 3-dr

Bi-Xenon lamps, sony cd, performance blue, under 7400 miles

£9995

10 59 KA ZETEC

Grand Prix Pack, alloys, air con, crystal white

£7995

07 07 C-MAX Zetec 2.0 Auto

Alloys, air con, privacy

£6495

FORD

10 10	**KA 1.2 Zetec.** Alloys, air con, privacy	£8,795
10 10	**KA 1.2 Edge.** Air con, electrics	£7,995
10 59	**KA 1.2 Zetec.** Grand Prix exterior pack, alloys, air con, privacy, crystal white	£7,995
09 09	**KA 1.2 Zetec.** Alloys, air con, privacy, moonlight silver	£7,295
08 08	**KA 1.3 Zetec.** Air con, alloys, privacy, choice	£4,995
08 08	**KA 1.3 Zetec.** Two tone, alloys, air con	£4,995
08 08	**KA 1.3 Style.** Climate, air con, quick clear, electric	£4,495
08 08	**KA 1.3 Style.** C/locking, elec windows, choice	£4,195
08 08	**KA Studio.** Choice of mets	£3495
07 07	**KA 1.3 Style.** Elec windows, c/locking	£3,795
07 56	**KA 1.3 Zetec.** Air con, alloys, cd	£3,995
10 10	**FIESTA 1.4 Titanium 3-dr.** Alloys, climate, privacy	£10,995
10 10	**FIESTA 1.4 Zetec 3-dr.** Alloys, air con	£10,495
10 59	**FIESTA 1.25 Zetec 3-dr.** Alloys, air con, vision blue	£9,995
09 59	**FIESTA 1.4 TDCi Zetec 5-dr.** Air con, bluetooth, avalon	£10,995
09 09	**FIESTA 1.6 Zetec-S.** Air con, alloys, sea grey	£10,495
09 09	**FIESTA 1.25 Style 3-dr.** cd, electrics	£7,495
09 58	**FIESTA 1.4 TDCi Style+ 5-dr.** air con, quickclear	£9,695
09 58	**FIESTA 1.25 Style+ 3-dr.** Air con, quickclear	£7,995
07 07	**FIESTA 1.25 Style Climate 3-dr.** Air con, quickclear	£5,295
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07 56	**FIESTA 1.4 Ghia 3-dr.** Full leather, air con, alloys	£5,495
07 56	**FIESTA 1.4 Style Climate 5-dr.** Air con, quickclear, electrics	£5,295
06 06	**FIESTA 1.6 Zetec-S.** Half leather, alloys, air con, sea grey	£5,995
06 56	**FIESTA 1.4 Zetec Climate Auto.** Air con, alloys, electrics	£4,995
05 54	**FIESTA 1.4 Zetec Climate 3-dr.** Air con, quickclear, alloys	£3,995
01 51	**FIESTA 1.25 Zetec 3-dr.** Alloys, air con	£1,995
09 59	**FUSION 1.4 Zetec 5-dr.** Alloys, air con, quickclear, choice	£8,495
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06 56	**FUSION 1.4 Zetec 5-dr Auto.** Alloys, air con, moonight silver	£4,995
10 10	**FOCUS RS.** Recaro seats, ultimate green, Sony 6 disc, bluetooth, air con	£25,495
10 59	**FOCUS 1.8 Zetec-S 5-dr.** Sports pack, privacy, 18 inch alloys, side skirts, choice	£10,995
10 59	**FOCUS 1.8 Zetec-S 5-dr.** 17 inch alloys, cd, air con	£10,495
09 59	**FOCUS 1.8 TDCi Titanium 5-dr.** Sports pack, comms pack, climate sat nav, blue tooth, choice	£12,995
09 59	**FOCUS 1.6 Titanium 5-dr Climate.** Comms pack, sat nav, bluetooth, choice	£10,995
09 59	**FOCUS 1.6 Titanium 5-dr.** Alloys, climate, choice	£10,495
09 09	**FOCUS 1.6 Titanium 5-dr.** Alloys, climate, vision blue	£9,995
09 09	**FOCUS 1.6 Zetec 5-dr.** Alloys, air con, cd, under 6,000 miles	£8,995
09 09	**FOCUS 1.6 Style 5-dr.** Sports pack, privacy, air con, 16inch Y-spoke alloys, spoiler, sea grey	£8,995
09 09	**FOCUS 1.6 Style 5-dr.** Air con, cd, electrics	£8,295
08 08	**FOCUS 1.8 Titanium 5-dr.** Privacy, climate, alloys, under 6,300 miles	£8,995
08 08	**FOCUS 1.8 Titanium 3-dr.** Privacy, alloys, climate, sea grey or pantha black	£8,695
08 08	**FOCUS 1.6 Style 5-dr.** Air con, cd, electrics	£7,495
07 07	**FOCUS 1.6 Zetec 5-dr Auto.** Air con, quickclear, alloys, choice	£6,495
07 07	**FOCUS 1.6 Zetec Climate 5-dr Auto.** Alloys, air con, cd, electrics, moondust	£5,995
07 07	**FOCUS 1.6 Zetec 5-dr.** Air con, alloys, quickclear, electrics	£6,295
07 07	**FOCUS 1.8 Sport 5-dr.** Alloys, cd, air con aquarius blue	£5,995
06 56	**FOCUS ST2 3-dr.** Performance blue, under 7,400 miles	£9,995
06 06	**FOCUS 1.6 Zetec Climate 5-dr Auto.** Alloys, air con, cd, tonic blue	£5,695
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06 56	**FOCUS 2.0 Ghia 4-dr.** Climate, alloys, electrics	£5,995
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09 09	**MONDEO 2.0 TDCi Titanium X 5-dr.** Climate, alloys, leather/suede, heated/cooling seats	£14,995
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07 07	**MONDEO 2.0 TDCi 130ps Edge 5-dr.** Alloys, park assist, rain sensors, air con	£7,295
06 06	**MONDEO 2.0 Ghia 5-dr Auto.** Alloys, climate, Sony cd, tonic blue	£6,495
05 05	**MINDEO 2.0 LX 5-dr Auto.** Air con, electrics	£3,995
07 07	**S-Max 1.8 TDCi LX.** Air con, electrics	£11,995
07 07	**S-Max 2.0 LX MPV 7-seats.** Air con, electrics, tango red	£9,695
06 56	**S-Max 2.0 TDCi Zetec.** Full leather trim, elec handbrake, alloys	£10,995
08 08	**GALAXY 2.0 TDCi Zetec Auto.** Electrics, alloys, park assist	£13,495
05 05	**GALAXY 1.9 TDCi Zetec.** Alloys, air con, front and rear park assist, privacy, pantha black	£6,495
08 08	**KUGA 2.0 TDCi Titanium AWD.** Bluetooth, appearance pack, half leather, vision blue	£16,995

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08 58	**CHEVROLET Aveo 1.2 LS 5-dr.** Air con, electrics	£4,995
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08 08	**CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 SE+ 5-dr.** Air con, cd, electrics, choice	£3,795
07 57	**CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 SE+ 5-dr.** Air con, cd, electrics, choice	£3,495
05 05	**CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 SE+ 5-dr.** Air con, cd, electrics, silver	£1,995
07 57	**CITROEN C2 1.6 Code.** Alloys, cd, full tan, leather, black	£6,495
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03 03	**PEUGEOT 206 1.6 Coupe CAB.** Alloys, air con, cd	£3,995
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Llantwit's Sunday XI just keep on winning!

LLANTWIT Major Cavaliers Sunday X1 beat Barry West End by 28 runs.

Openers Harry Withers (12) and skipper Jonathan Cheal (12) got Llantwit off to a solid start with a 35-run partnership, and Mike Wood hit a lively 38, but it was Tim Bunce who held Llantwit's innings together with an excellent 42 not out.

A costly 37 extras from the visitors allowed Llantwit to reach 165 for 7 in their 40 overs.

In reply, several Barry batsmen got into their 20s but were unable to kick on against some excellent Cavaliers bowling and fielding, and slumped from 114 for 5 to 139 for 9.

Dave Cheal applied tremendous pressure to concede just two runs off his four overs, with Andrew Williams taking 3 for 23 off 8 overs, Andrew Ashton 2 for 26 off 8 overs and Jonathan Cheal 2 for 14 off 5 overs.

Sam Pickford and Mike Wood also picked up a wicket each at a very economical rate.

Bridge results

THE latest Cowbridge Bridge results are as follows:

VALE OF GLAMORGAN BRIDGE CLUB – JUNE 21.

First: Terry Evans and Alan Lewis with 69.05 per cent. Second: Ray Smith and Gwynne Maddox (64.68). Third: Mary Moore and Irene Thomas (61.90). Fourth: John Moore and Mildred Trigg-Knight (56.35). Fifth: Teri Pollard and David Wright (55.56). Sixth: Joan Bird and Muriel Maslin (55.16).

COWBRIDGE & DISTRICT BRIDGE CLUB – JUNE 22.

First: Margaret and Ian Fernyhough (66.00). Second: Amy Owen and Glenda Roberts (62.50). Third: Hugh Williams and Gordon Berrey (54.00). Fourth: Barbara and Colin Easterbrook (51.00). Fifth: Fran and Chris Morgan (50.00). Joint sixth: Teri Pollard and David Wright (49.00); Chris and Vince Bennett; Ann Miller and Judy Springett.

BS

LOCAL FOOTBALL CLUB MEMBERS WORK UP A THIRST ON GOLF DAY

THE day dawned early on the greens of Cottrell Park Golf Club for the Llantwit Major AFC Golf Day.

A cloudless sky and a warm gentle breeze greeted the 42 competitors for this event.

All 18 holes had been sponsored by local businesses. There were some notable performances in this year's individual and team Stableford competition. Dave Jones, who failed to register a score at any of the 18 holes in last years event, completed the day with a creditable 28 points.

The team of Cope, Davies, Urquart and Davidson started well but found the heat too oppressive and floundered like a pod of beached whales!

Dai Price found the going tough as well, missing several birdie opportunities after a long and hot four-and-a-half hours.

In the cool of the clubhouse, the stories were in full swing – tales of 45 feet birdie putts lipping out and drives of 300 yards could be heard over the clatter of knives and forks as the survivors of one of the hottest days of the year tucked into their well-earned food and drink.

Lee Jennings, who had superbly organised the day, gave a brief but succinct speech before the presentations. A heartfelt thanks went to all the sponsors and, in particular, The Gateway of India restaurant, Therapy Works and Eurgent Express.

The overall winner was Elliot Stokes with an impressive 42 points, playing off an eight handicap.

Steve Scott picked up the prize for the nearest the pin competition on the par 3 eight hole and the team prize went to Team Stokes.

The day ended with a slightly controversial decision by the organisers, who awarded the longest drive to Jack Landsdown. Tim Watts, the old Llantwit Major AFC war horse and first team coach, mistakenly felt that he had been in contention for the coveted prize, when his frustration got the better of him and he hitched a ride in a buggy from the 14th green back to the clubhouse!

If the Ryder Cup is half as entertaining as the Llantwit Major AFC golf day, Wales is in for a treat!

DC

LEFT:
The treasurer in trouble!

Rugby training starts in Llantwit Major

LLANTWIT MAJOR RFC is starting pre season training on Tuesday, July 6, at 7pm

A spokesman said: "If you are interested in playing rugby, then come and play for Llantwit Major, one of the oldest clubs in the WRU.

"We are looking for players for all positions old and new to add to our current squads and all military personnal are welcome.

The club will be looking at going on tour overseas next season."

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06 FIAT PUNTO 1.4 ACTIVE 3DR ALLOYS, AIR CON — REFURB CLEARANCE PRICE £4999

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06	Astra 5dr 1.6 SXi Alloys Air/Con	£7999
57	Astra 3dr 1.8 SRi Alloys Air/Con	£9499
58	Astra 5dr 1.6 Club Air/Con/Alloys	£8999
09	Astra 3dr 1.9 CDT 150 bhp/Ex Pack	£12699
57	Astra 5dr 1.8 Design/Leather/ Air/Con Alloys	£8699
58	Astra 3dr 1.6 Design/Leather/ Air/Con Alloys	£10499
07	Astra 5dr 1.6 SXi Alloys Air/Con	£7999
57	Astra 5dr 1.4 Breeze Air/Con Alloys	£7999
07	Astra Twin Top 1.8 Alloy Air/Con	£9999
57	Astra 5dr 1.8 SRi Sport Button	£8499
58	Astra 3dr 1.8 SRi Exterior Pack	£11499
58	Astra 5dr 1.6 Club Air/Con/ABS	£8999
58	Astra 3dr 1.6 SXi Alloys Air/Con	£10499
09	Astra 5dr 1.8 Elite Leather/Alloy Air/Con	£10999
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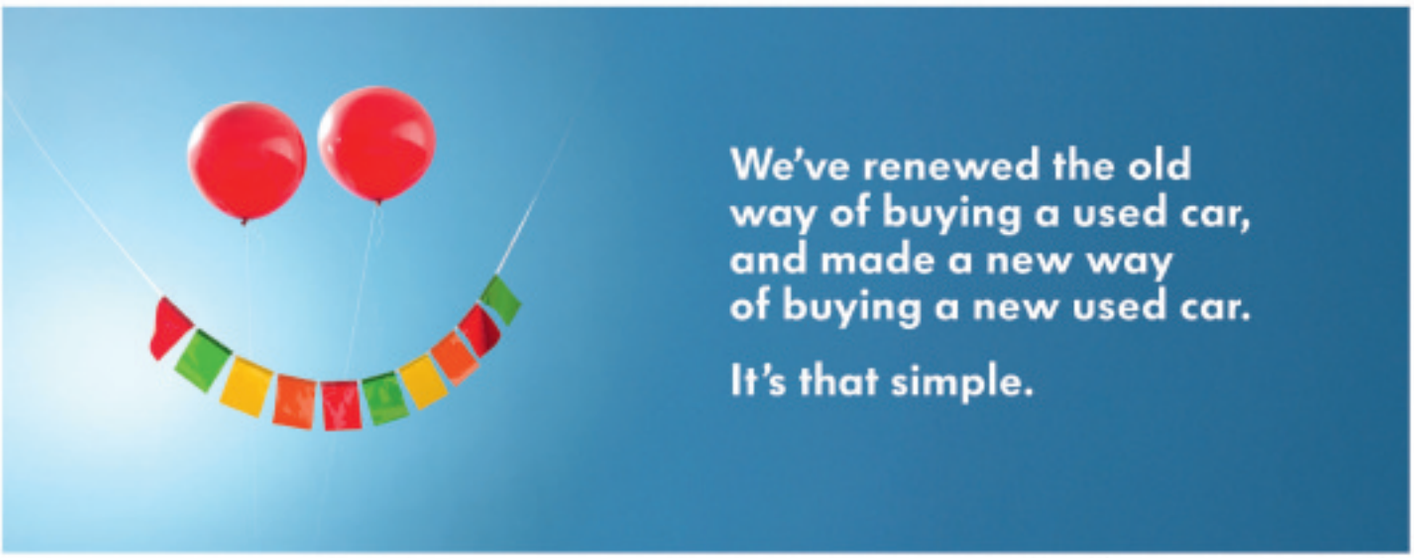

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165/70R13 Bridgestone B250	£46.64	£87	£165	165/70R13 Avon ZV5	£38.64	£72	£140	165/70R13 Tenyol	£29.34	£55	£105
175/70R14 Bridgestone B250	£59.64	£112	£210	175/70R14 Avon ZV5	£47.94	£92	£175	175/70R14 Tenyol	£33.60	£62	£115
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185/60R15 Bridgestone ER300	£73.64	£132	£255	185/60R15 Avon ZV3	£56.22	£105	£200	185/60R15 Tenyol	£37.22	£70	£135
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195/60R15 Bridgestone ER300	£75.94	£135	£260	195/60R15 Avon ZV5	£62.94	£118	£220	195/50R15 Federal	£44.37	£82	£155
195/65R15 Bridgestone ER300	£63.94	£110	£210	195/65R15 Avon ZV5	£54.94	£101	£195	195/65R15 Maxxis	£46.84	£85	£160
205/55R16 Bridgestone ER300	£72.94	£125	£240	205/55R16 Avon ZV5	£65.94	£125	£240	205/55R16 Maxxis	£54.71	£100	£190

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205/55R16 Bridgestone ER300	£77.92	£145	£275	205/55R16 Avon ZV5	£68.27	£125	£240	205/55R16 Hero	£51.74	£95	£180
225/45R17 Bridgestone RE050	£103.94	£199	£390	225/45R17 Avon ZV5	£90.22	£175	£330	225/45R17 Hero	£55.22	£105	£195
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04 **04 AUDI TT Roadster, 1.8T Quattro (180bhp) 2-dr Convertible.** In cherry black with black alcantra leather interior, 18" alloy wheels, BOSE sound system, traction control system, front fogs, only 34,000 miles....**£11,995**

03 **03 BMW 3 Series 2.0 318Ci SE Convertible.** In light yellow metallic, with full black leather interior, electric heated seats with memory, cruise control, climate control, rear parking sensors, 18" Msport alloy wheels, only 55,615 miles....**£11,995**

03 **03 BMW 330 Ci 2-Door Convertible.** In Topaz blue with grey Montana interior, 6-CD multi-changer, heated seats, automatic air con, cruise control, rear parking sensors, only 55,130 miles....**£11,995**

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07 **57 MERCEDES BENZ 3.5 SL350 Convertible 7G-Tronic.** In jasper blue with alpaca grey leather interior, Bose sound system, sat nav, 19" AMG alloy wheels, phone prep, heated seats, only 19,175 miles....**£35,995**

07 **57 LAND ROVER Range Rover Sport 2.7 TD V6s Automatic 5-Dr Station Wagon.** In Java black with ebony leather interior, rear entertainment package, 20" alloy wheels, cruise control, phone prep, heated seats, only sat nav, 34,640 miles, ...**£27,995**

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02 **52 LEXUS RX300 3.0 SE (Lexus Nav) 5-dr Auto station wagon** in platinum ice silver with beige oak interior, climate control, sat nav, multi cd, sunroof, electric seats, only 86,200 miles **£7,495**

SPORTS

09 **09 MINI 1.6 (120bhp) Cooper (Pepper) Graphite** In graphite grey with black interior, storage compartment package, 2 spoke leather steering wheel, air con, CD, only 6,570 miles **£14,495**

09 **58 VAUXHALL Astra 1.8 SRi Sporthatch.** In technical grey met with silver alpha interior, air con, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, rear spoiler, trip computer, only 26,770 miles **£10,995**

07 **57 HYUNDAI Coupe 2.0 SIII** in steel grey with full red leather interior, climate control, sunroof, cruise control, alloy wheels, only 23,600 miles....**£10,495**

07 **07 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 2.0 TDi DPF (170PS) GT Sport 5-dr** in met shadow blue with full Vienna leather heated seats, sunroof, climate, I-pod dock, 18 inch Charlston alloy wheels, only 37,111 miles **£13,995**

07 **07 SEAT Leon 2.0 TDi DPF FR 5-dr Hatchback.** In black magic with FR grey interior, cruise control, air con, traction control system, ESP, only 36,598 miles **£13,495**

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06 **56 HONDA Civic 1.8i V-tec Type-S 3-dr Hatchback.** In alabaster silver with alcantara/suede interior, climate control, CD, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 24,405 miles **£10,495**

04 **04 TOYOTA MR2 1.8 VVTi 140 6-spd** in sable grey met with Santa Monica leather, alloy wheels, chrome roll over bar, wind deflector, cd, alarm and immobiliser, only 49,750 miles **£7,995**

04 **54 AUDI A3 2.0TDi Sport 3-dr Hatchback.** In crystal blue with matrix black cloth/leather, cd, alloy wheels, climate control, electronic stability programme, only 64,000 miles....**£9,995**

04 **54 MITSUBISHI Shogun Sport 2.5 TD 5-Dr Station Wagon.** In black Mica with black leather interior, air con, alloy wheels, CD, immobiliser, only 54,530 miles **£8,995**

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04 **54 MG TF 1.8 135 Convertible.** In ignition blue with anthracite Sebring interior, alloy wheels, cd player, alarm and immobiliser only 27,100 miles **£4,995**

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04 **04 AUDI TT Roadster, 1.8T Quattro (180bhp) 2-dr Convertible.** In cherry black with black alcantra leather interior, 18" alloy wheels, BOSE sound system, traction control system, front fogs, only 34,000 miles.....**£11,995**

04 **04 CITROEN C2 1.6 VTR Sensodrive** in arctic steel silver with neutron mesh interior, paddle shift, alloy wheels, air con, colour coded bumpers, rear spoiler, cd, only 62,100 miles **£4,295**

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08 **08 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Breeze 5-dr** in star silver met with tabita charcoal interior, alloy wheels, climate control, trip computer, body coloured bumpers, only 10,800 miles **£9,495**

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07 **57 CITROEN C3 1.4 HDi Cool 5-dr hatchback** in Arctic silver with Galand black interior, air con, cd, immobiliser, £35 a year road tax, one owner, only 37,845 miles....**£6,995**

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03 **03 HONDA Civic Type S 5-dr** in clover green met with half leather sports seats, climate control, alloy wheels, rear spoiler, full Honda service history, only 36,030 miles **£5,695**

02 **51 TOYOTA Corolla 1.6 VVTi GLS Automatic 5-dr** in Atlantis blue metallic with hocney interior, alloy wheels, air con, sunroof, cd auto-changer, body coloured bumpers, only 34,790 miles **£3,495**

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09 **09 VAUXHALL 1.4 16v Design (a/c) 5-dr Automatic Hatchback.** In black with black interior, cd, alloy wheels, electric mirrors and windows, auto dipping rear view mirror, only 8,020 miles **£10,995**

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09 **09 CHEVROLET Aveo LT 1.4** in pearl black with bricket cloth, aircon, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, alarm and immobiliser, cd, only 16,900 miles **£6,995**

08 **58 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Design (A/C).** 5 door in ice blue with dark interior, air con, MP3 input, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, only 19,950 miles....**£8,495**

08 **08 FORD KA Studio.** In panther black with cascade interior, immobiliser, CD, drivers airbag, central locking, only 32,349 miles....**£4,995**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.4 5-dr Hatchback.** In silver with black interior, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, fog lights, only 37,550 miles....**£6,995**

07 **07 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2i 16v life (a/c) 3-dr hatchback easy tronic.** In metro blue with punch cloth charcoal interior, electric mirrors, air con, immobiliser, service history, only 17,900 miles **£6,495**

06 **06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-dr Hatchback.** In platinum silver with grey interior, alloy wheels, steering wheel mounted audio controls, colour coded bumpers, CD, only 19,860 miles **£5,995**

06 **55 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style Climate 3-dr.** In tonic blue with Kyoto ebony interior, air con, quickclear front screen, cd, trip computer, colour coded bumpers, only 41,820 miles....**£5,295**

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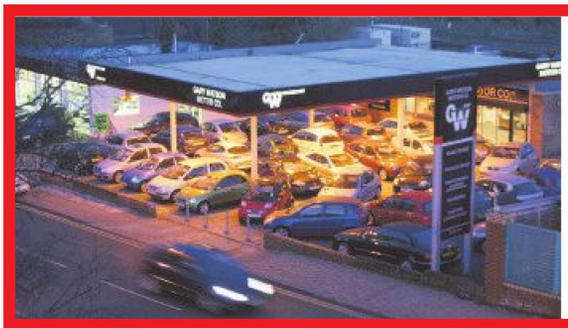

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After the tour...
MUCH TO PONDER, AS WELSH RUGBY TAKES A BREATHER

BACK PAGE COMMENT by Don John

'Once again, this frustrating young Welsh team were partly the architects of their own downfall, faulty execution proving costly at critical junctures and the lack of a totally ruthless edge was in stark contrast to far more streetwise opponents, who typically grabbed every scoring opportunity that came their way…'

THAT is what I wrote in my summing up of the 42-9 defeat to New Zealand in the first Test at Carisbrook – and in essence, it was much the same story in the 29-9 second Test defeat at Hamilton on Saturday, with Welsh indiscipline the added contributing factor.

It was bad enough seeing their influential captain Ryan Jones leave the field injured at Waikato, but to be reduced to 14 men for a quarter of the match through two yellow cards gave the Welsh underdogs a well nigh impossible task – even against Graham Henry's reshuffled All Blacks, who showed seven changes from the one-sided first Test.

In fairness, an eager Wales side showing two changes of their own – 20-year-old Osprey Dan Biggar in for Stephen Jones at outside half and Scarlets' Jonathan Davies at centre – again got off to a very promising start, Leigh Halfpenny sending over a howitzer of a penalty to grab the lead inside two minutes.

This was promptly negated by that all too familiar thorn in the Welsh side, outside half Dan Carter, who landed the first of five penalties, which with a conversion, would take his match tally to 17 points (to add to the 25 he amassed in the first Test!)

At Dunedin, Wales had appeared to run out of steam after the interval, despite achieving parity for much of the first half (*to head coach Warren Gatland's undisguised chagrin*) and as a result, New Zealand had run amok, racking up 27 unanswered points.

This time, though, a redoubled Welsh effort held firm for the whole duration, most notably in the scrum led by the indomitable Adam Jones, who had a point to make to former Wales coach Steve Hansen (now Henry's No 2).

For once the men in black appeared discomfited – until the usual Welsh propensity for ill-timed errors began to surface, resulting in missed opportunities and lost possession at the contact and breakdown areas, where wily Richie McCaw was again the wrecker-supreme, as ever blissfully immune to official sanction!

Mind you, he was not alone in that respect: While in no sense belittling New Zealand's deserved exalted status at the top of the world rugby tree, there are times when it seems that referees have collective blurred vision where silver fern transgressions are concerned that do not always apply to the rest.

Even so, it had no real bearing on the outcome of the two-Test series Down Under, which underlined just how much further Gatland's men have yet to travel before they seriously threaten a Kiwi supremacy stretching back to 1953 – the Queen's coronation year – the third (*and last*) time Wales have triumphed in 27 clashes between the two nations.

The pragmatic former All Black implicitly acknowledged this by setting his team the minimal goal of a passionately-committed performance for the whole 80 minutes, to at least win the "respect" of his homeland. In this at least, the pre-tour target was surely achieved, for in terms of unflinching, all-out effort, the entire Welsh squad could not be faulted – showing a never-say die spirit and pride in the red shirt, that (unlike the hapless England football team) enabled them to return home with their heads held high.

While the Welsh camp can point to this and other plus factors that will stand young players in good stead for the future, the reality is that the records will merely show that they were well beaten – by opponents who never really needed to hit top gear.

To put it in sober context, Hansen was afterwards quoted as saying that the All Blacks would now turn their attention to the "big boys" (in the Tri-Nations).

With Gatland's focus, as always, firmly on next year's looming Rugby World Cup in New Zealand, the Six Nations will be crucial in honing his squad to a strategy that will give Wales the best chance of success in the competition.

The signs are there that Wales are slowly assembling a pack more than able to hold their own up front and supply the quick ball to talented backs on which Welsh play traditionally depends.

Who knows, there could yet be a role for sadly-neglected scrum half Dwayne Peel to provide those extra vital seconds needed to inject pace into the attack from the base of the scrum – and then, of course, there is also the No 10 conundrum!

So, plenty for Gatland & Co to ponder on, as everyone now takes a short breather before the whistle sounds for the start of a long, hard season in which World Cup glory is the glittering distant prize.

Cowbridge bowlers have their visitors in a right old spin!

LLANELLI FIRST XI visited the Athletic Field on Saturday and departed much earlier than planned, having been completely outplayed.

The visitors won the toss and sensibly decided to bat on what was the warmest afternoon of the summer so far.

However, this decision did not work in their favour, despite the fact that it was the obvious ploy. It really required a score of at least 250 runs to be competitive on such a fast outfield, but they fell woefully short.

At 99 for two wickets in 24 overs it all looked good for Llanelli, but the wheels came off as they collapsed to 116 all out in 39 overs!

They began sensibly and cautiously, with the first wicket falling at 44, when Chris Willey took a well-judged catch off the bowling of Lloyd Bishop.

Lloyd bowled impressively, yet again in batsmen friendly conditions, with only 22 runs scored off his 10 overs, and he claimed the second wicket to fall as well.

Most of the credit for his second wicket, however, must go to Mike Lloyd, who took a spectacular catch at mid-on. The new batsman sweetly timed a drive off the meat of the bat but, unfortunately off the ground.

It travelled rapidly to Mike, who threw himself swiftly to his right, took the catch with both hands while parallel to the ground and held on when he hit the ground.

The Llanelli skipper had to take the long walk, shaking his head in disbelief all the way to the pavilion.

A stand of 42 runs now developed between Rees and Richards but when the score was 100, the third wicket fell. It was an unnecessary run out as their best batsman went for a second run, but he had not counted on Rob Carney's bullet-like throw to the top of the stumps.

This reckless moment signalled the beginning of the end for the visitors as the remaining wickets fell for the addition of just 16 runs in 14 overs.

Nick Davies and Will Haines were responsible for the demolition. Nick, with his most effective bowling of the season so far, took 4 wickets for 17 runs in 9 overs and Will, making his first appearance this summer, took 3-19 in 13.

His presence gave more balance to the attack as it allowed the skipper to concentrate on field placing, resist the temptation to bowl and concentrate on his future batting.

So Llanelli First XI were despatched for 116 leaving quite a small total for the home side to score for victory. This they duly did quickly after tea, ending on 120 for two in 18 overs.

The fact that they were entitled to use 60 overs if needed was of academic interest.

Tom Merilaht and Mike Lloyd began the innings in customary style, striking 61 rapid runs off seven overs. The first wicket fell at this score, when Mike was caught on the long-on boundary for 26, trying to hit the bowler out of the ground.

Rob Carney (four) was bowled in the 10th over by a ball that kept strangely low. He had joined Tom, also 26 at the time, while they scored 17 together.

Adam Wood then kept Tom company to the end. They batted attractively and sensibly, and saw the team to victory in the 18th over.

By that time Adam had scored 17, and Tom 57 – another half-century under his belt in what is proving to be a very successful season for him and his team.

At the end of the game the skipper said: "I'm proud to be part of such a great team performance; a real demolition job".

So at the mid-point of the season, Cowbridge First XI sits comfortably at the top of the second division table, and all associated with the club hope that the second half of the season is just as successful.

Next week the First XI travels to Skewen. The Second XI is at home and will welcome your support.

DL

COWBRIDGE BOWLING CLUB MATCH NEWS

A great win over Romilly

THERE were three club matches played last week.

The ladies played Whitchurch away in a two-rink Rose Bowl competition and can be congratulated on a 30-28 win.

Judy Springett's rink with Mary Thomas, Janet Legg and Diane Purnell, drew 15-15, and May Jones' rink, with Shirley Wilkinson, Lynda Wilson and Pauline McAllen, won their battle to clinch victory 15-13.

The Tuesday Cowbridge Shield match, also played away, was against Porthcawl Ladies. Cowbridge lost out with heavy defeats on two of the rinks but gained two points with a win on one.

Rink scores were as follows: Diane Purnell, Sue Brewer, Ann Jarvis, Joy Woolford 18, Porthcawl 15. Glenys Davies, Lynda Wilson, Joan Bradley and Shirley Wilkinson 11, Porthcawl 24. Mary Thomas, Jan Lewis, May Jones and Pauline McAllen 9, Porthcawl 31.

In the only match played by the men (in the Munro Cup), Cowbridge hosted last season's champions Barry Romilly. The Barry club has strength and depth – to date its Saturday league team is unbeaten.

Barry sent a strong team and won on one rink, drew on another, but lost to Cowbridge on the other two and by a 10-shot difference. Match total Cowbridge 81 Romilly 71.An excellent result for Cowbridge.

Rink scores were as follows: Charles Sanders, Howard Owen, John Trott and Byron Richards 19, Romilly 19. Terry Dunsworth, Len Taylor, Colin Wilson and Norman Wilkinson 23, Romilly 11. Mansel Davey, Roger Brewer, Peter Newman and Brian Kent 25, Romilly 19. Eric Sewell, Rob Lewis, Steve Dickens and Dennis Snelling 14, Romilly 22.

Finally, the club's internal competitions have progressed to the semi-final stage and the draw has been made for the Millennium Shield.

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